

Respect the Rio

Annual Report

2005

Dispersed Recreation Component

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Figure 1. Map of Guadalupe Watershed.

Summary

The Contact Ranger program is a small yet very important tool of the Respect the Rio program. Without it, we lose a critical component – public understanding and support. The public can make or break efforts put forth by the Forest Service to improve riparian habitats and water quality. When the public is informed about what is happening and why, there is usually support for the projects at hand. This support can be seen in public compliance with new regulations, respect for restoration sites, and efforts to promote the program's overall goal. On the other hand, when the public sees changes in regulations and sites without knowing what is being done or why, they have a tendency to “rebel” against the changes. The public can undo restoration efforts, costing the Forest Service more time, money, and effort to reach our goal.

During the first three years of the Contact Ranger program, the education crew directly contacted 5,656 dispersed campers and recreationists. An additional 1,453 visitors were reached at developed campsites through interpretive programs conducted by the education crew and guest archaeology speakers. Thousands more have been reached through movie theater ads, Respect the Rio website (www.fs.fed.us/rtr), articles, interpretive signs, and other multi-media.

The 2005 Contact Ranger crew continued to ask dispersed campers and recreationists if they have heard of the Respect the Rio program and what they thought about it. While many had not heard of the program, only a few were unsupportive. It was not always clear if those groups were opposed to the program or just opposed to the changes. What was clear was the majority (92.8%) of support or indifference for the program and the minority of non-support (1.7%). As the Contact Ranger program continues in the summer of 2006, we should expect an increase in the number of groups familiar with the Respect the Rio program.

A highlight of the 2005 Contact Ranger survey findings are listed below:

- 476 groups, totaling 2,306 individuals were contacted;
- 92% of the visitors were from the Albuquerque area;
- An average of 4.9 people per site was noted with a maximum of 40 and minimum of 1;
- Overall, 543 tents and 247 RV's (motor homes/trailers/pop-up campers/pick-up campers) were counted during the 2005 survey period;
- There were 840 vehicles (cars, vans, pick-ups, SUV's, jeeps, motorcycles, and motor homes), 237 trailers (camp trailers, pop-up trailers, and flatbed trailers), 71 ATVs, and 120 others (dirt bikes/motorcycles, bicycles, etc.) transporting visitors within the Guadalupe Watershed;
- The average number of vehicles per site was 1.8 (includes vehicles only, does not include trailers, ATVs, dirt bikes, bicycles, etc.);
- There were 44 groups confirmed as day users with 302 groups confirmed as overnight campers;
- Average number of nights stayed when a group was confirmed as camping overnight was 2.2. Longest stay was 14 nights; shortest was 1;
- Popular activities included camping (45%), fishing (18%), hiking (18%), off-highway vehicle (OHV) use (6%), swimming (4%), bicycling (3%), playing horseshoes (2%);
- Rio Guadalupe had more groups hiking, and Rio Cebolla and Rio de las Vacas had more groups using OHVs and riding bicycles;
- There were 92 bicycles, 71 ATVs, and 28 dirt bikes.

- A small percentage (11.1%, 53 groups) of the 476 groups within the watershed had heard of Respect the Rio.

Between fall 2003 and summer 2005, the Respect the Rio program focused on modifying several dispersed campsites within the Guadalupe Watershed. The Rio Guadalupe corridor was the first to see changes in great part due to the Motorized Vehicle Use Closure (see Appendix D), followed by the Rio Cebolla corridor (see Appendix E).

Compliance with the Guadalupe and Cebolla Motorized Vehicle Use Closure is tied directly to education of the public through Contact Rangers and interpretive signage. While there is some non-compliance, this behavior should be reduced over time as more individuals learn about the Respect the Rio program and its goals.

While there was no official closure signed for the Rio de las Vacas corridor, the Cuba Ranger District decided to modify access roads to several dispersed campsites. Many of these campsites had access roads that ford the stream in multiple locations.

Chapter 1 – Introduction

What is Respect the Rio?

Respect the Rio is a multi-faceted restoration and education program designed to balance the need for preservation of riparian and floodprone areas with needs of the public. It seeks to do this by accomplishing the following goals:

1. Identifying and addressing water quality issues that have developed from recreational use
2. Educating the public about habitat, habitat needs and on-going restoration projects
3. Creating a program and materials that are easily adaptable to other forests and agencies
4. Creating community partnerships

Where did Respect the Rio come from and where is it going?

Respect the River originated in the USDA Forest Service Pacific Northwest Region on the Methow Valley Ranger District, Okanogan National Forest in 1993. On the Methow Valley Ranger District, over one hundred degraded and “unofficial” or dispersed campsites were scattered near prime salmon spawning habitat in the headwaters of the Columbia River. Many had been used by generations of locals and visitors. Recognizing that closing well-loved areas would be both unpopular and unfortunate, the USDA Forest Service searched for an alternative. The result was Respect the River, a program created to improve fish habitat and protect endangered fish species while reducing the impacts of recreation in riparian areas but still providing recreational experiences.

Friendly to both fish and people, Respect the River works on two fronts: education and restoration. It uses Contact Rangers, newspaper and radio ads, brochures, interpretive signs, and other outreach means in combination with restoration treatments such as fence and boulder barriers, scarification, and re-vegetation. Only through education will recreationists understand the importance of protecting riparian and riverine habitats and take ownership in conserving and restoring those areas across the region. New illegal roads, user trails, or dispersed campsites have declined in Pacific Northwest Respect the River focus areas since the program’s inception. Quality of camping has improved; sites are better defined, smaller and more vegetated. Less trash and human waste is found. Soil and vegetation damage caused by illegal motorized vehicle use has dramatically decreased. Bank erosion and illegal firewood cutting have decreased. Recreationists are parking their vehicles and RVs away from stream banks. Most importantly, campsites have remained open and recreationists are receiving a consistent message.

Today, the program has expanded to include Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Umatilla National Forest, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Lewis and Clark National Forest, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Mt. Hood National Forest, and Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

The Santa Fe National Forest in the Southwestern Region puts a Hispanic spin on the program by calling it Respect the Rio. Other agencies such as the National Park Service (in Glen Canyon National Recreation Area) and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife are starting Respect the River programs, and interest in this award-winning program continues to increase internationally (Mexico and Canada).

Santa Fe National Forest and Guadalupe Watershed

The Santa Fe National Forest includes 1.6 million acres in the heart of north-central New Mexico. Within the forest's borders are lush meadows, miles of mixed conifer and aspen trees, and a dormant volcano with a 15-mile wide crater (Valles Caldera National Preserve). Visitors enjoy camping, fishing, hiking, and many other outdoor recreation activities while residents maintain their traditional and cultural uses of the national forest and forest products. The Santa Fe National Forest varies in altitude from 6,000 feet above sea level to the summit of Truchas Peak, located in Pecos Wilderness, at 13,103 feet. The Forest includes 291,669 acres of designated wilderness and approximately 1,000 miles of perennial streams and rivers, waters responsible for the abundant wildlife and human habitation to be found in the area.

According to the National Visitor Use Monitoring project conducted in 2003, there were 1,356,154 forest visitors. In addition, there were 1,522,307 site visits to day use and overnight developed areas and 64,956 visits to wilderness areas. Visitors were 58% male and 42% female. The top five activities visitors participated in were viewing natural features, hiking/walking, relaxing, viewing wildlife, and driving for pleasure.

Table 1. Percentage of Santa Fe National Forest visitors by age class.

Age Class	Percent
Under 16	18.7%
16 to 19	2.7%
20 to 29	11.9%
30 to 39	16.7%
40 to 49	20.8%
50 to 59	18.3%
60 to 69	6.8%
70+	4.1%

The Walatowa Visitor Center is owned by the Jemez Pueblo and jointly staffed by Forest Service personnel. The visitor center is considered the “gateway” to the Guadalupe Watershed – the Respect the Rio corridor. There were 25,797 people who stopped in at the visitor center in 2003 and 35,536 people in 2004, an increase of 37.8%.

The Guadalupe Watershed drains the south Jemez Mountains, is fully contained within the Cuba and Jemez Ranger Districts, and includes Rio de las Vacas, Rio Cebolla, and Rio Guadalupe.

Over 50 miles of perennial streams in the Guadalupe Watershed eventually flow into the Jemez River and then into the Rio Grande. Rio de las Vacas begins as a tiny channel high in San Pedro Parks Wilderness Area, within the Cuba Ranger District, and flows south until it meets the narrow Rio Cebolla at the Porter area to form the larger Rio Guadalupe, within the Jemez Ranger District. The Guadalupe Watershed starts as high mountain meadow habitat draining snow and rain off the Jemez Mountains to flow south through mixed conifer and aspen forests. This river system slowly drops into ponderosa pine, and then is channeled into piñon-juniper habitat through a semi-arid canyon environment before its confluence with Jemez River beyond the boundary of the Santa Fe National Forest. A portion of the watershed, the Forest Road 376 corridor, falls within the boundaries of the Jemez National Recreational Area. The Guadalupe Watershed is a 5th code watershed within the 4th code Jemez Watershed (see Figure 1). Of the 171,195 acres within the Guadalupe Watershed, the Santa Fe National Forest manages 99.4% (170,241 acres). While the Contact Ranger program currently focuses on the Guadalupe Watershed, Respect the Rio and its projects span across the larger Jemez Watershed.

Impairments to Guadalupe Watershed

The Guadalupe Watershed is designated as an impaired watershed by New Mexico Environment Department, Surface Water Quality Bureau (NMED-SWQB) through regulations established by the

Clean Water Act (Section 303), 1977. The Clean Water Act makes states responsible for testing and monitoring watersheds using a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) system. According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the entity responsible for enforcing the Clean Water Act, “A TMDL...is a calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a water body can receive and still meet water quality standards, and an allocation of that amount to the pollutant’s sources.”¹ In short, a TMDL is a kind of water-safety budget in which only a certain number of pollutants can be deemed acceptable in a certain stream, lake, or bay, and if some pollutant exceeds the budgeted amount, action must be taken to improve it.

Under New Mexico’s TMDL system, Guadalupe Watershed has shown the following impairments within Respect the Rio’s project area:

- Rio Guadalupe has exceeded state standards for turbidity, aluminum, and sedimentation/siltation;
- Rio Cebolla has exceeded state standards for sedimentation/siltation;
- Rio de las Vacas has exceeded state standards for temperature.

The Santa Fe National Forest manages over 99% of Guadalupe Watershed and must respond to these water quality impairments. Two NMED-SWQB/EPA grants were procured for this watershed to begin addressing impairments and ended December 2003 and December 2004. A third grant was awarded and began in fall 2005 and will continue to December 2008. Since all but chronic aluminum impairments can be linked to dispersed recreational use along this watershed, Respect the Rio began laying the groundwork for watershed restoration and education that began in 2003 and will continue in future years.

Overview of Methods

In 2003, Santa Fe National Forest’s Respect the Rio crew conducted a Dispersed Campsite Inventory within the Guadalupe Watershed. Collected Dispersed Campsite Inventory data helped identify dispersed campsites, which were the focus of the Contact Ranger Program (see Appendix B for a definition of terms).

The Contact Ranger Program began in the summer of 2003 and was the first of its kind on the Santa Fe National Forest. A social survey form was created for social data collection and as a guide to educate Forest campers, anglers, OHV users, and other recreationists about river-friendly camping methods. Social survey questions were developed by Jemez Ranger District Recreation Staff in order to plan visitor-friendly riparian restoration projects within the Guadalupe Watershed. These questions led to discussions of how the Forest may be changing management in the area, pulling vehicles off rivers, getting trash out of the corridor, keeping human waste out of river systems, minimizing campfire impacts, and other watershed health issues. A river-friendly camping flier was passed out to most groups contacted throughout the summer. In Fall 2004, the flier was translated into Spanish for use during the 2005 Contact Ranger program.

Continuing in 2004, the Contact Ranger Program modified its approach of gathering data to disseminating information. Instead of asking campers what changes they have noticed and what changes they would like to see, Contact Rangers informed campers of restoration projects and changes happening in the area. Campers still received a “Be a River-Friendly Camper” flyer, and children received a Respect the Rio temporary tattoo.

¹ <http://www.epa.gov/owow/tmdl/intro.html>

The 2004 social survey form was tailored to gather basic data such as the number of people camping, how long they were staying, where they live (i.e. zip code), and if they had camped in the area before (see Appendix C). Some items such as camping type (i.e. tent, motor home, pop-up trailer, etc.), vehicles (anything with wheels that can be driven, pulled, or ridden in), and recreational activity (i.e. fishing, bicycling, off-road vehicle use, hiking, etc.) had been subdivided to make data user-friendly.

Contact Rangers were conducting social surveys and disseminating information Saturdays and Sundays between Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend.



Photo 1. Dispersed campers with an RV respecting the buck-n-pole exclosure (25 July 05).

Chapter 2 – Contact Ranger Program

Social Survey Results

With funding from a 2005 USDA Forest Service Centennial of Service Challenge grant, the Respect the Rio's Contact Ranger program continued its focus on educating visitors about river-friendly camping methods and informed visitors of current restoration projects. Many dispersed campsites along Rio Guadalupe, Rio Cebolla, and Rio de las Vacas had been modified between fall 2003 and fall 2004. The remaining campsites along Rio Cebolla were modified by the end of June 2005.

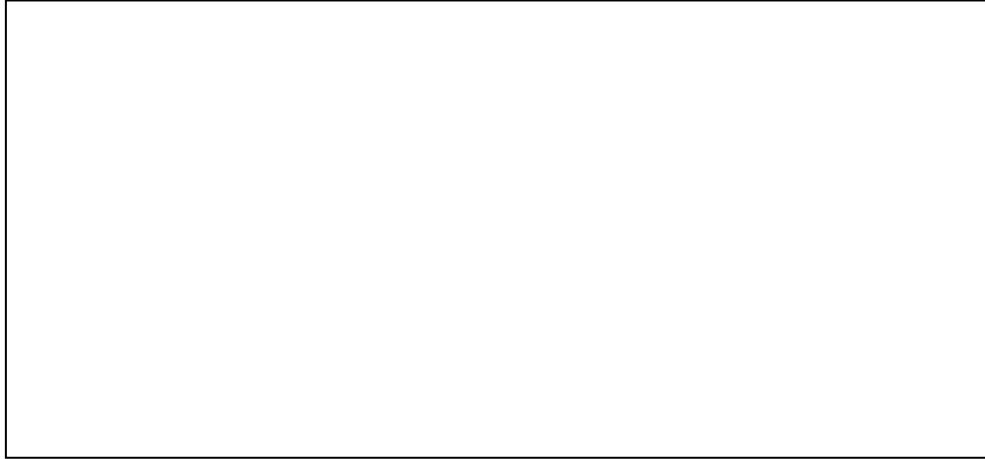


Photo 2. SCA interns Greer McGettrick and Jennifer Seaman talk with dispersed campers (18 June 05).

The 2005 Respect the Rio Contact Ranger crew consisted of two Student Conservation Association interns (Jennifer Seaman and Greer McGettrick), an Assistant Education Coordinator (Kavita Krishna), and an Education Coordinator (Kimberly Kelly). Contact Rangers talked with visitors almost every Saturday and Sunday from Memorial Day to Labor Day in order to educate visitors about river-friendly camping and restoration projects and to gather social data. Contact Rangers were trained not only in how to gather social data, but also in how to approach people and make them comfortable enough to discuss openly their opinions of the Guadalupe Watershed's future.

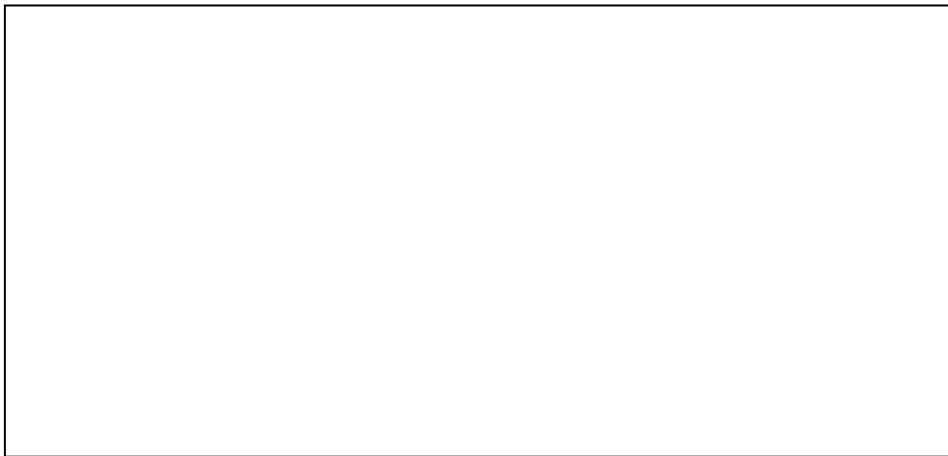


Photo 3. Visitors complying with the motor vehicles enclosure (29 May 05).

Motor Vehicle Closure

The main focus of the 2005 Contact Ranger season was to inform visitors of the new motorized vehicle closure (see Appendix E) signed on February 16, 2005, that would affect campers and recreationists along Rio Cebolla. A similar closure for Rio Guadalupe (see Appendix D) had been in effect since June 1, 2004. Both closures gave Forest Service personnel an enforceable opportunity to alter dispersed campsites and to modify recreational behavior.

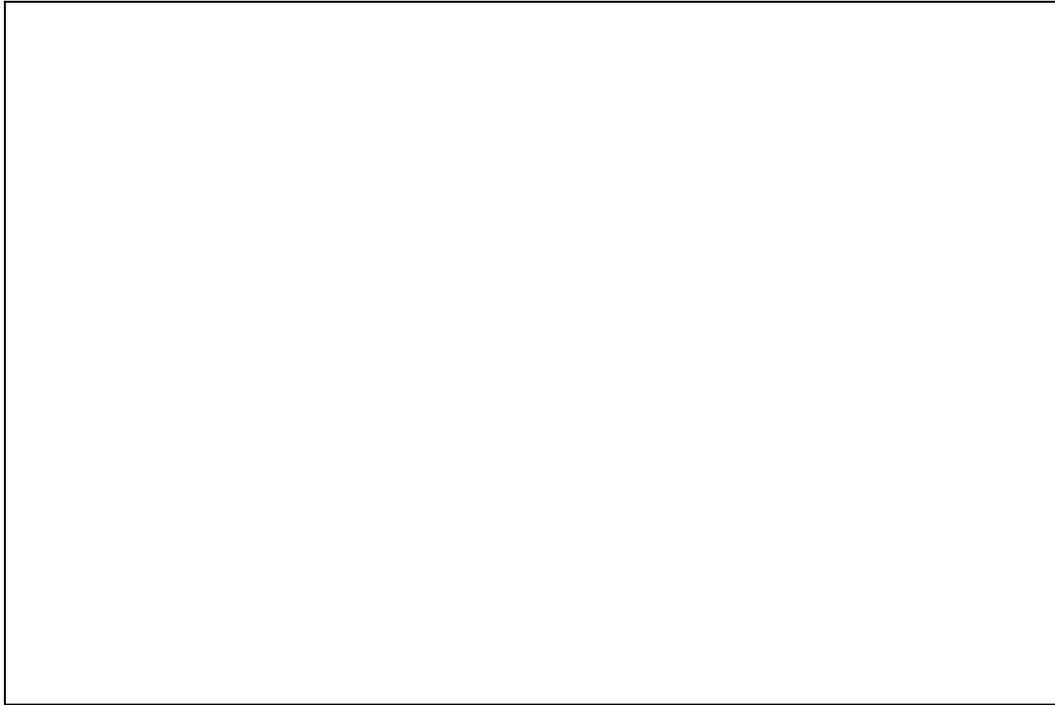


Photo 4. Campers complying with the motor vehicle closure (29 May 05).

Visitor Statistics

Social surveys were done for each campsite group (not each individual), which usually had one or two unofficial “spokespersons.” Data gathered was not weighted by number of people in each group. Numbers in this report are based on information visitors provided or on observations made by Contact Rangers. When sites were occupied but visitors were absent, Contact Rangers had to rely solely on observation. Also, Rio Cebolla was a predetermined area of concern for Respect the Rio and was surveyed every other weekend; twice as often as Rio Guadalupe and Rio de las Vacas. This should be noted when considering total numbers in tables and charts.

Some general use statistics help paint a picture of visitors to Guadalupe Watershed.

- Total number of individuals contacted during the 2005 Respect the Rio Contact Ranger program was 2,306.
- Total number of groups contacted during the 2005 Respect the Rio Contact Ranger program was 476.
- An average of 4.9 people per site was noted with a maximum of 40 and a minimum of 1.
- Average number of nights stayed when a group was confirmed as camping overnight was 2.2 nights. Longest stay was 14 nights; shortest was 1.

- There were 44 groups confirmed as day users with 302 groups confirmed as overnight campers.

Visitors to Guadalupe Watershed were asked where they were from in order to determine target audiences for future Respect the Rio education outreach. Contact Rangers asked for zip codes to further define where visitors were from (i.e. zip codes allow for more geographical detail than just Albuquerque). If a site was occupied, but no one was present, the Contact Rangers recorded the state from license plates if a vehicle was present. Figure 2 shows the breakdown of visitors' home areas.

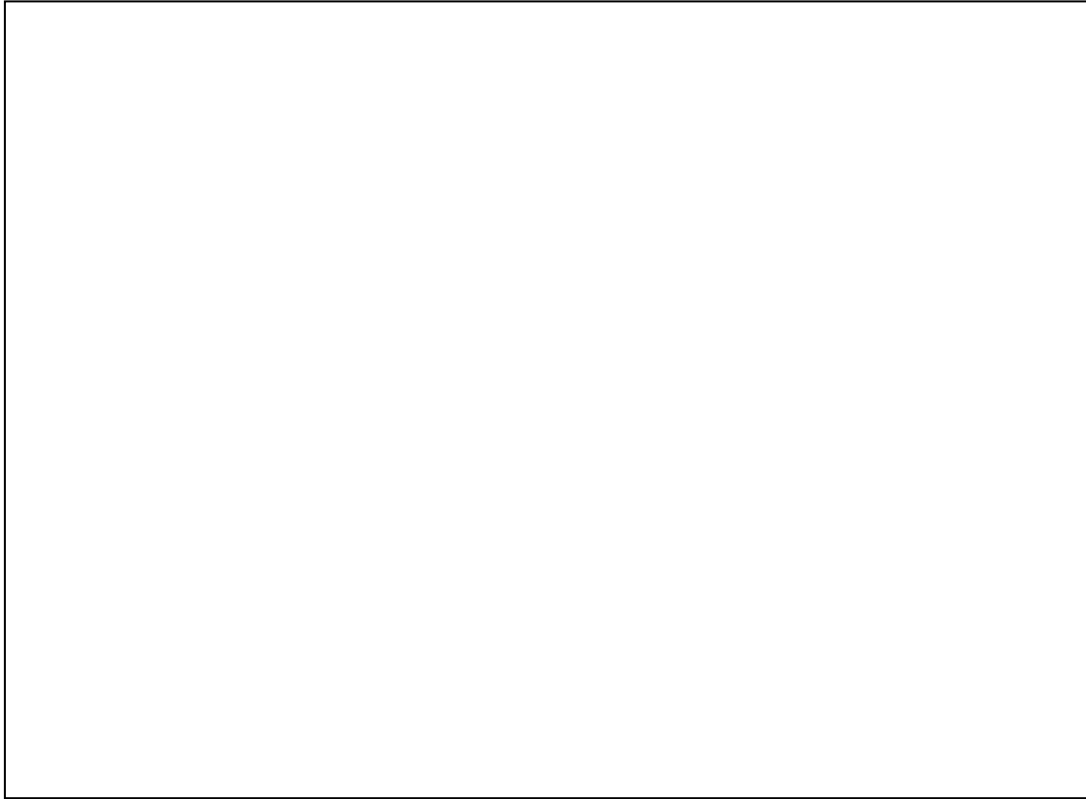


Photo 5. SCA interns Greer McGettrick and Jennifer Seaman talk with dispersed campers (18 June 05).

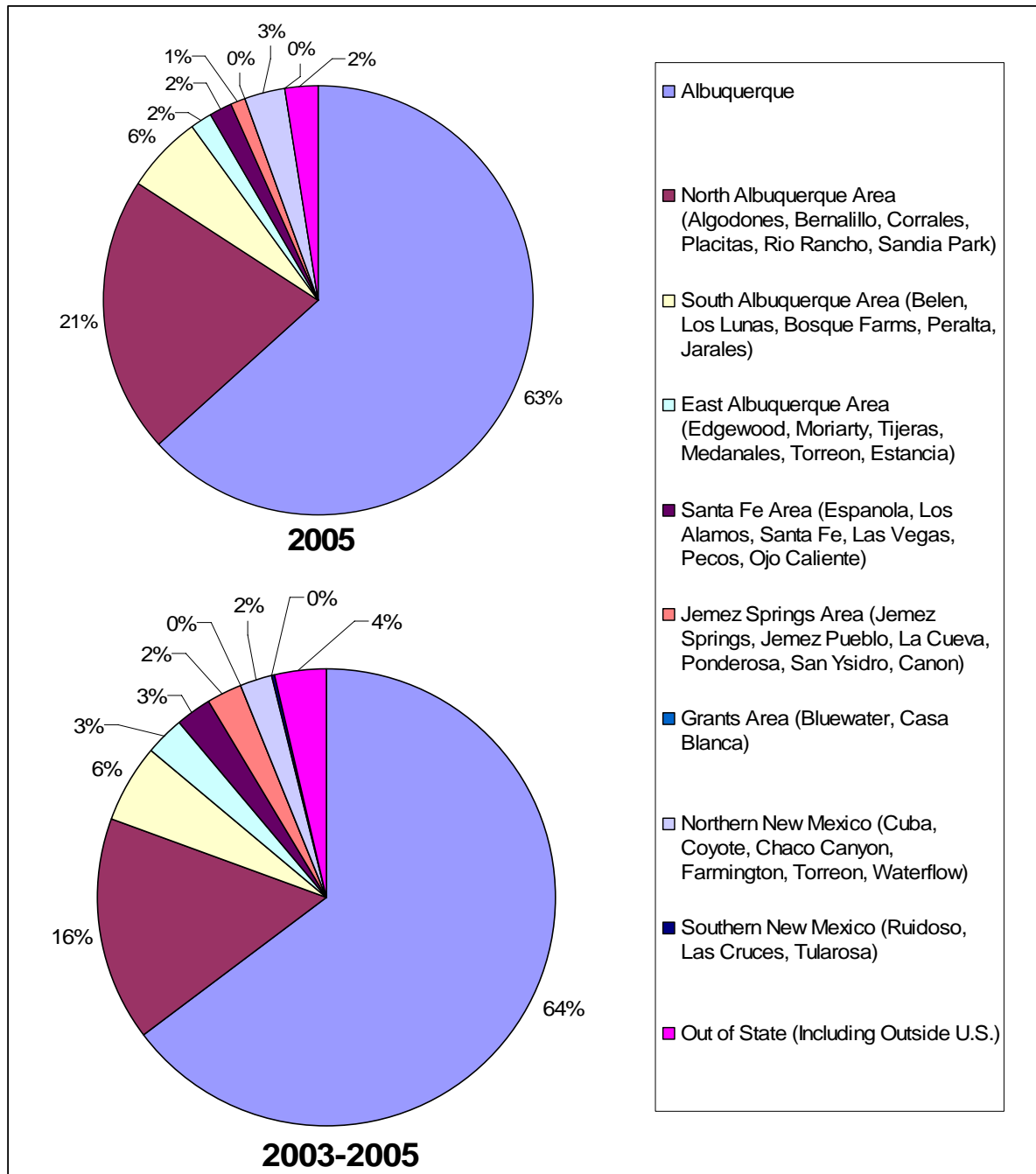


Figure 2. Residential demographics of visitors to Guadalupe Watershed for the years 2005 and 2003-2005.

The smallest percentages of visitors to Guadalupe Watershed in 2005 (each less than 5%) were from northern New Mexico (10 groups of visitors), out of state (8 groups), Santa Fe area (6 groups), east Albuquerque (5 groups), and Jemez Springs area (4 groups). In 2005, there were no groups from southern New Mexico or the Grants area.

About 6% of the visitors came from the south Albuquerque area (20 groups), and 21% came from the north Albuquerque area (69 groups). The largest percentage (63%) of visitors came from Albuquerque (210 groups). In all, the Albuquerque area (including Albuquerque proper) represented 92% of all Guadalupe Watershed visitors, which appears to be the highest proportion to date.

Albuquerque residents are broken down further into zip codes representing northeast, northwest, southeast, and southwest areas of the city (see Figure 3). These geographic divisions are roughly defined by north-south running I-25 and east west I-40.

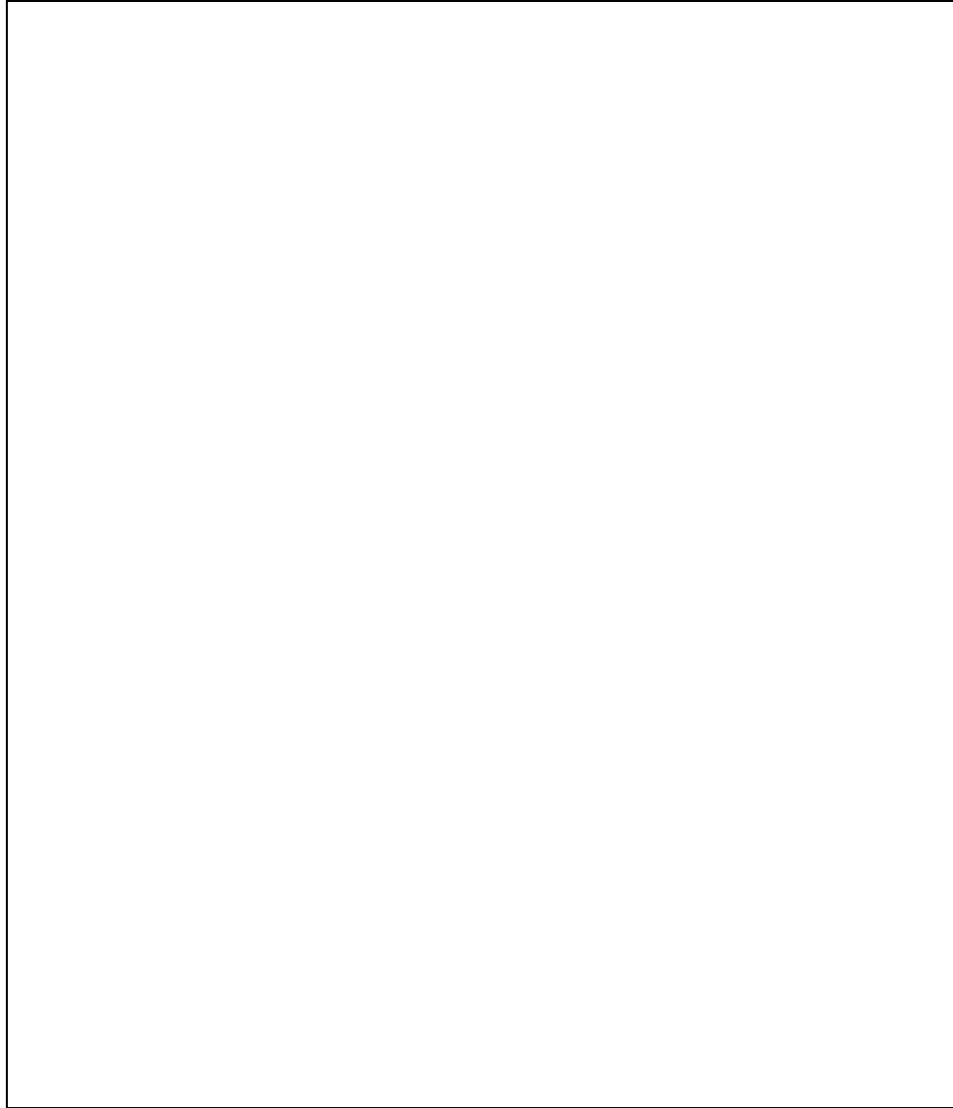


Figure 3. U.S. Postal Service Albuquerque zip code map (taken from City of Albuquerque phonebook) with general northeast, northwest, southeast, and southwest subdivisions.

Zip codes representing northeast Albuquerque include 87109, 87110, 87111, 87112, 87122; northwest include 87107, 87113, 87114, 87120; southeast include 87106, 87108, 87115, 87116, 87117, 87118, and 87123; southwest include 87102, 87104, 87105, and 87121. Several zip codes were from unknown regions of Albuquerque since they are for postal boxes only including 87101, 87131, 87154, 87193, 87195, and 87199.

Most Albuquerque residents visiting Guadalupe Watershed in 2005 hail from the west side. Southwest and northwest Albuquerque accounts for 65% of visitors to the Guadalupe Watershed (Figure 4). In contrast, east Albuquerque accounts for only 33% of this urban Guadalupe Watershed visitation. Future education outreach should consider these visitor demographics.

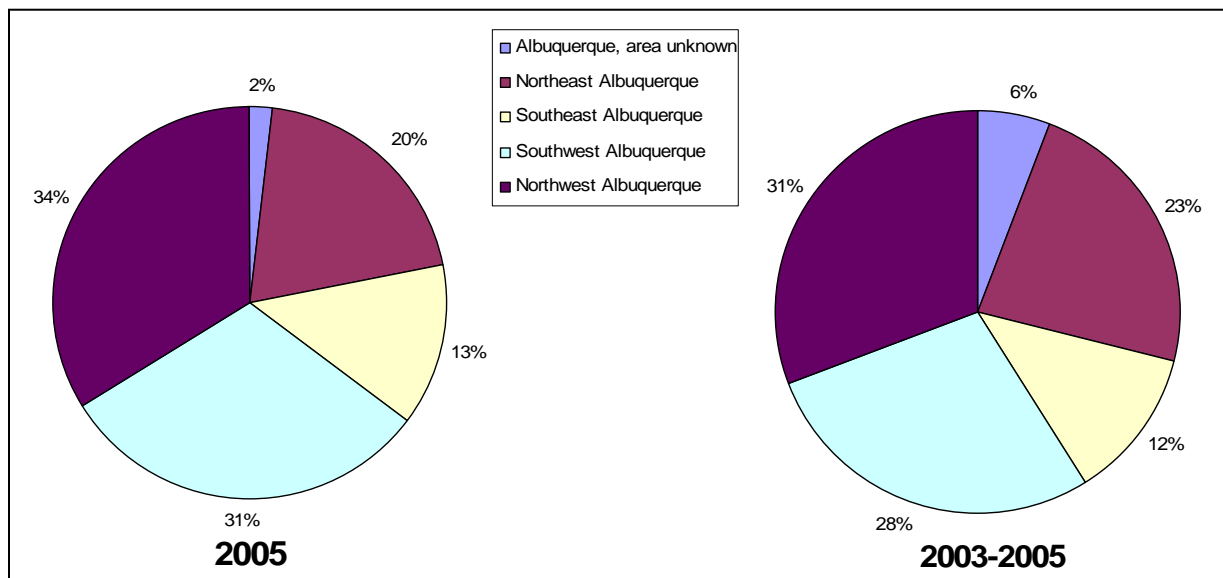


Figure 4. Visitor demographics of Albuquerque residents for the years 2005 and 2003-2005.

Group Size

The overall average group size for the Guadalupe Watershed was 4.9 people per group (see Table 2). This was less than last year's 6.8 people per group. The drop could be related to the modification of dispersed campsites. Rio Cebolla had the highest average group size (5.5 people per group), and Rio Guadalupe had the lowest (2.4 people per group). These averages are reflective of the amount and size of camping areas available within each corridor.

Table 2. Total number of people and groups for each river corridor.

Stream Corridor	# of People	Maximum # of People	# of Groups	Average # of People/Group
Rio Cebolla	1770	40	321	5.5
Rio Guadalupe	133	35	58	2.4
Rio de las Vacas	403	22	97	4.1
Total	2306	40	476	4.9

Camping Type

Contact Rangers noted visitors' camping type as tent, motor home, camp trailer, pop-up trailer, pick-up camper, or other. All types of camping were recorded with the number of each type. Many camping complexes accommodated multiple types of camping throughout the summer.

Type of camping seen in the corridor is important since tents and RV's (motor homes, camp trailers, and pop-up trailers) affect campsites differently. For instance, RV campers need a large, flat space for entering with large vehicles and for turning around. Many dispersed campsites have a U-shaped

drive with one way in and another way out, often to allow RV access. Thus, parking and sedimentation impacts may be higher for RV-popular complexes.

RV's often contain a toilet that can be flushed clean at a proper sanitation site while tent campers rarely use portable toilets for camping. Tent camping may impact fecal coliform counts in rivers. However, we do not assume that RV's are not illegally dumping their septic or gray water into the river.

Camp trailers and pop-up trailers are distinguished from motor homes in that a vehicle (generally a large one) is needed to pull both types of trailers. Often times, the trailer is detached so visitors can explore the forest with their vehicle. Motor homes do not allow for such use, unless a vehicle (generally a small one) or OHV is towed behind the motor home.

Overall, Contact Rangers counted 543 tents and 247 RV's (motor homes/trailers/campers) along the three streams during the 2005 survey (see Table 3). The noticeable discrepancy between tents and RV's along Rio Guadalupe is due to the geography of the area and vehicle closure.

Table 3. Total number of each camp housing type seen in each of the river systems. (*Others include modified vans, sleeping in the back of a pick-up, or sleeping in a car.)

Stream Corridor	Tents	Motor Homes	Camp Trailers	Pop-up Trailers	Pick-up Campers	Others*
Rio Cebolla	426	17	138	31	7	4
Rio Guadalupe	28	0	2	2	0	0
Rio de las Vacas	89	6	25	12	2	1
Total	543	23	165	45	9	5

In all, 107 groups were camping in RV's, 192 were camping in tents, and 73 groups were using a combination of tents and RV's (see Figure 5). Rio Guadalupe camping was mostly with tents (77.8%). The Motor Vehicle Closure greatly reduced RV camping along Rio Guadalupe but had little effect on Rio Cebolla. Along Rio Guadalupe, there are only a few pullouts large enough to allow RV camping. Because groups often had more than one RV or tent at a campsite, actual number of RV's and tents in the corridor is much higher (see Table 3).

Overall, tents were far more numerous than any other type of camping shelter found within the Guadalupe Watershed (see Table 3). Camp trailers and pop-up trailers were the most popular types of RV's. This could be because the vehicle pulling the trailer can be detached and used as a means of transportation through the forest. Other camp housing types included converted vans and people camping inside their vehicle.

It is interesting how tent use increased and RV use decreased along the Rio Cebolla since the CFR went into effect. The return of RVs along Rio Guadalupe could be because the Rio Cebolla closure forces a few folks to settle on staying along the Guadalupe.

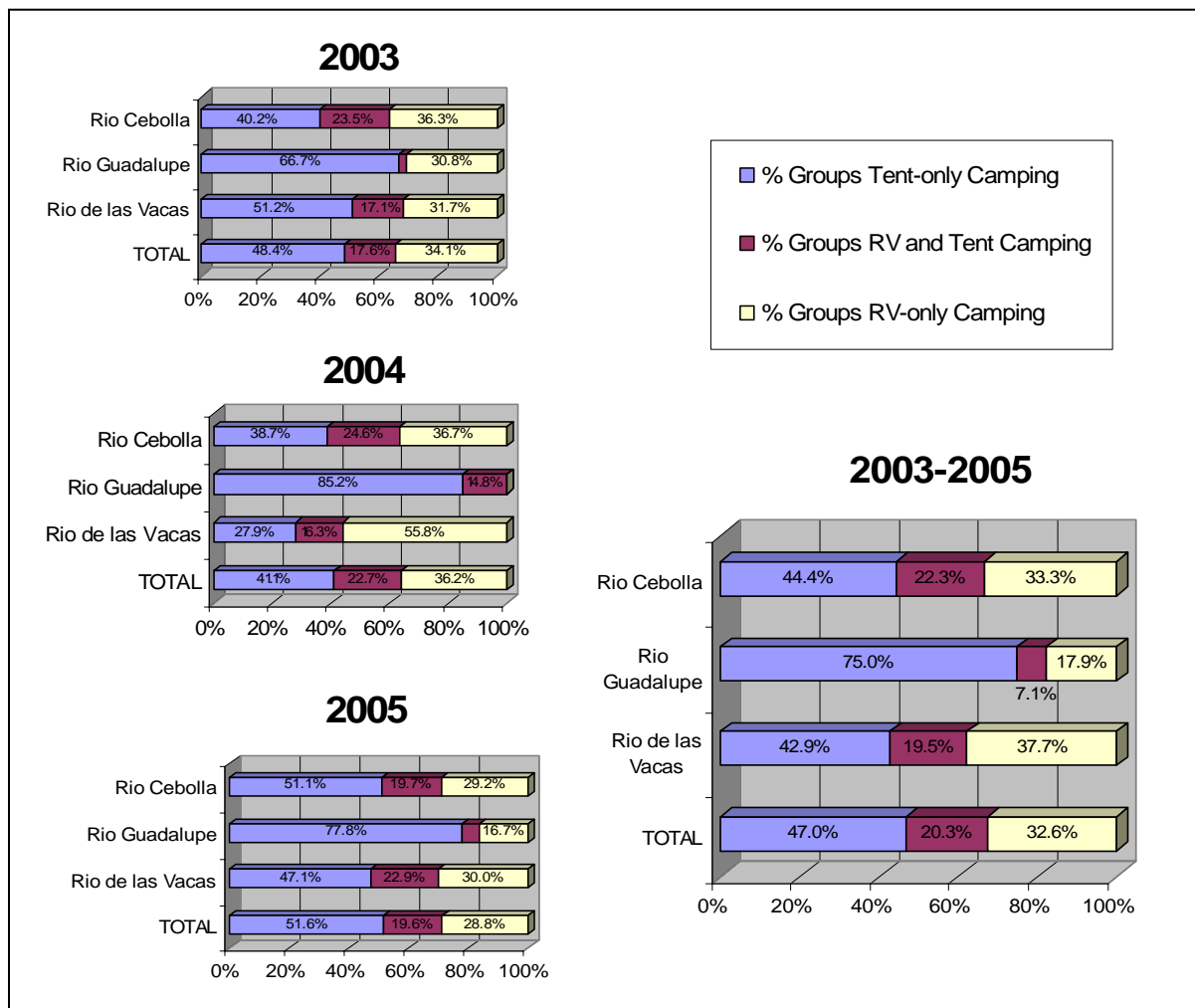


Figure 5. Percentage of groups camping with tents only, both RVs and tents, or RVs only within each river system.

Visitor Usage

Overall, 87.3% of groups contacted were camping overnight (see Figure 6). Rio Guadalupe had a relatively larger proportion of day users (39%). Figure 7 shows the percentage of day users for the years 2003 thru 2005.

Average number of nights stayed when a group was confirmed as camping overnight was 2.2 nights (see Table 4). On average, visitors stayed longer along Rio de las Vacas (2.3 nights/group). Rio Cebolla groups averaged 2.2 nights. Rio Guadalupe had the shortest length of visitors with 1.6 nights per group. For confirmed overnight campers, the longest stay was 14 nights; shortest was one night.

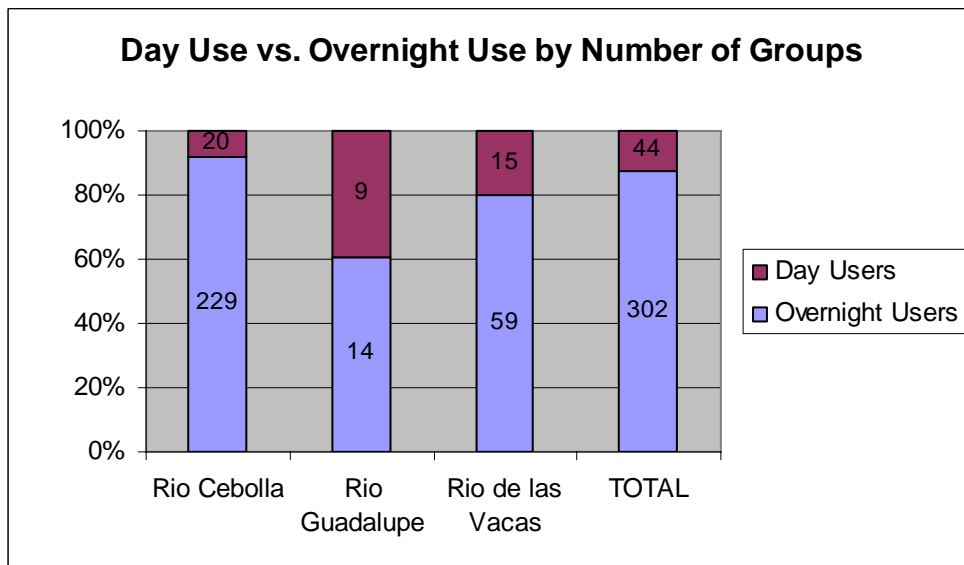


Figure 6. Proportion of camping and day-use groups by river system.

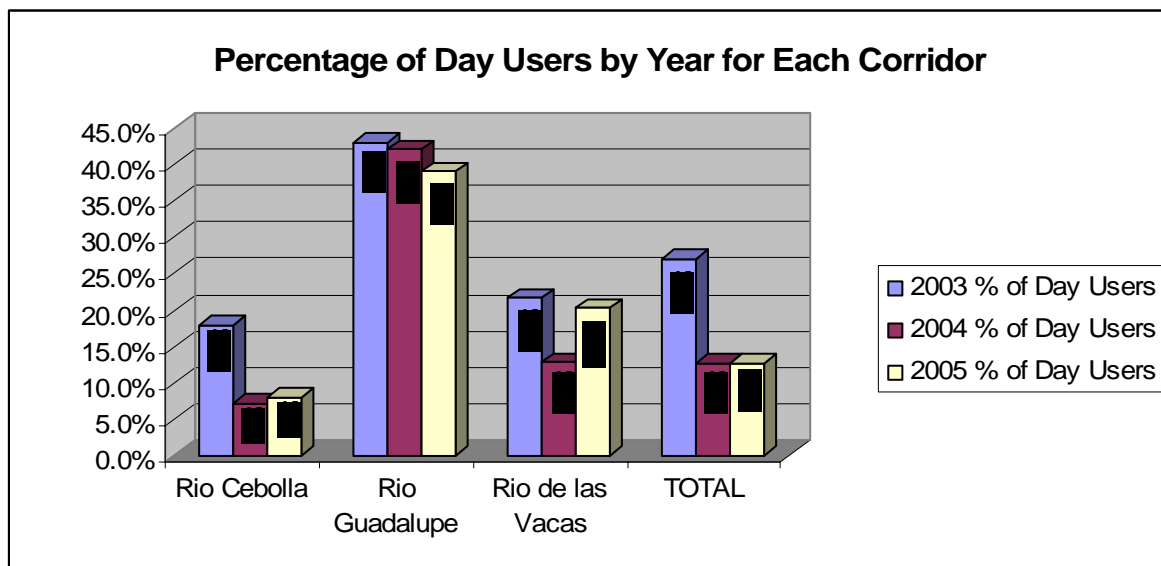


Figure 7. Percentage of day users for 2003, 2004, and 2005 within each river system.

Table 4. Duration of stay by group within each corridor.

Stream Corridor	Day Use	1 Night	2 Nights	3 Nights	4 Nights	5 Nights	14 Nights
Rio Cebolla	20	55	105	47	16	5	1
Rio Guadalupe	9	6	8	0	0	0	0
Rio de las Vacas	15	13	28	11	4	3	0
Total	44	74	141	58	20	8	1

Many of the visitors to the Guadalupe Watershed have visited the area before. Overall, 45.4% of the visiting groups returned to a campsite within the same river corridor. Rio de las Vacas (56.7%) had the highest percentage of returns. Rio Cebolla had 46.4% returnees and Rio Guadalupe had 20.7% returnees. The vehicle closures along Rio Guadalupe and Rio Cebolla forced many groups that usually camped in that area to find new sites.

During 2003, a dispersed campsite inventory was completed for all campsites found along all three stream corridors. The inventory assigned a unique number and name for each campsite found. During the 2005 Contact Ranger season, a total of 31 new sites were recorded. Some of the new sites, particularly along Rio Guadalupe, included pull-off areas for vehicles, of which the owner was out fishing, hiking, etc. There were 13 new sites along Rio Guadalupe, 13 new sites along Rio Cebolla, and only 5 new sites along Rio de las Vacas. It is speculated that the motor vehicle closures along Rio Cebolla and Rio Guadalupe have something to do with the creation of new sites.

Appendix F contains a table listing all inventoried and new campsites along all three corridors. The table also shows the usage of each site. The most popular and heaviest used sites include Party Place (27 groups totaling 186 people), Cebollita Springs East (27 groups totaling 179 people), and All in One (22 groups totaling 197 people). All three of these sites are along Rio Cebolla and offer a large area to accommodate several groups at once.

Table 5. Total number of each vehicle type noted in each corridor.

Stream Corridor	# of Cars	# of Vans	# of Pick-ups	# of SUVs	# of Jeeps	# of Motorcycles	# of Motor Homes
Rio Cebolla	105	31	331	122	4	7	17
Rio Guadalupe	13	7	39	14	2	0	0
Rio de las Vacas	27	2	85	25	1	2	6
Total	145	40	455	161	7	9	23

Vehicle Use

Numbers and types of vehicles were also noted on the social survey form (see Table 5). Categories included cars, pick-ups, SUVs, jeeps, vans, motorcycles, and motor homes. Of the total vehicles, there were 840 vehicles (including motor homes) that were driven into and around in the forest. Pickups were the most popular type of transportation, which could be because they were towing camp trailers or pop-up trailers. Pick-ups are also popular for transporting dirt bikes and ATVs. In addition, there were 237 trailers (flat bed trailers, camp trailers, and pop-up trailers).

The total average number of vehicles per group was 1.8, which is lower than last year's 2.2 vehicles per group. Average number of vehicles per group along Rio Cebolla was 1.9, along Rio Guadalupe was 1.3, and along Rio de las Vacas was 1.5, indicating that most campers are part of a group larger than one family unit.

Visitor Activities

Both campers and day users described a wide variety of recreational activities that attracted them to the Guadalupe Watershed during summer months (see Figure 8). Popular activities included camping (309 groups), fishing (127 groups), hiking (126 groups), OHV use (45 groups), and swimming (28 groups).

Visitors' activities within each river system shows how each area is more conducive to different types of activities (see Figure 9). By looking at predominant activities along each river corridor, Forest Service resource personnel can better manage each area. For example, the activity of bicycling occurs along Rio Cebolla and Rio de las Vacas, but not Rio Guadalupe.

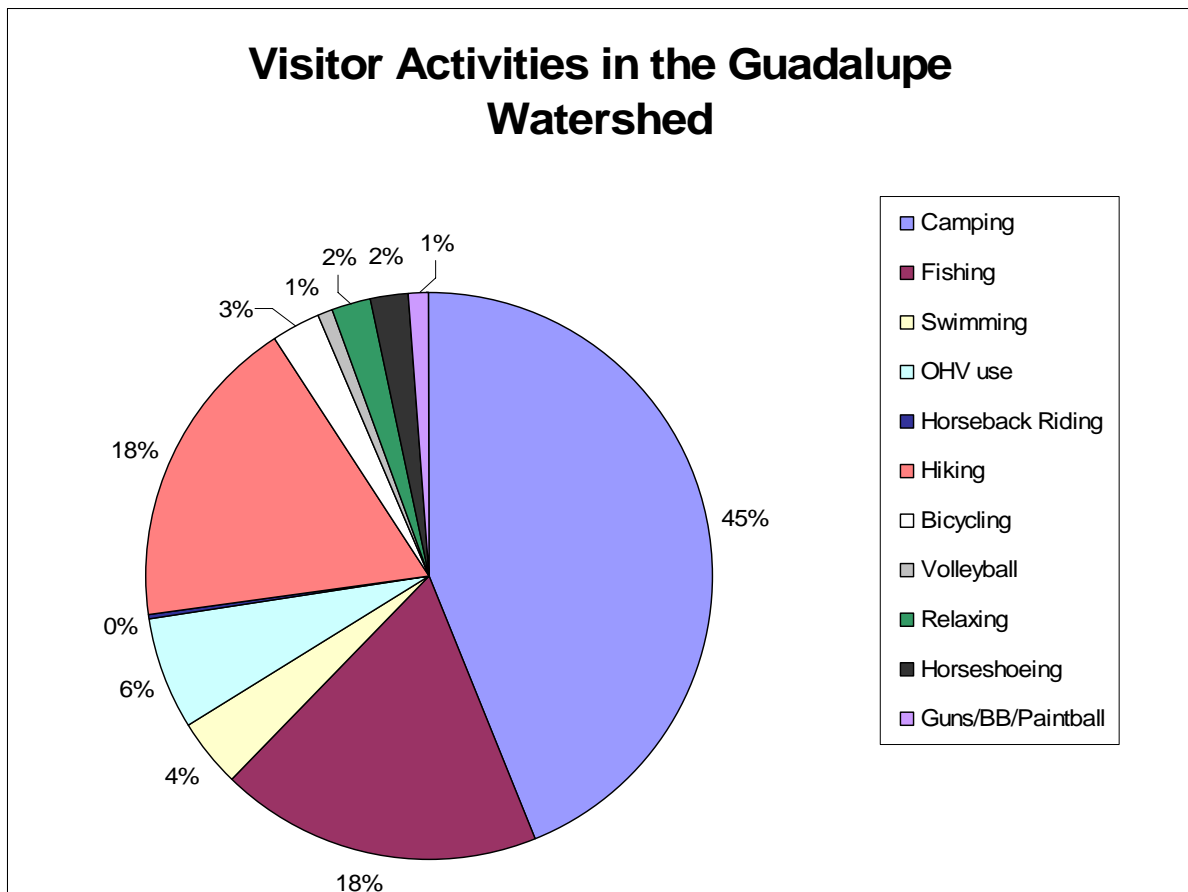


Figure 6. Percentage of groups participating in activities within the Guadalupe Watershed.

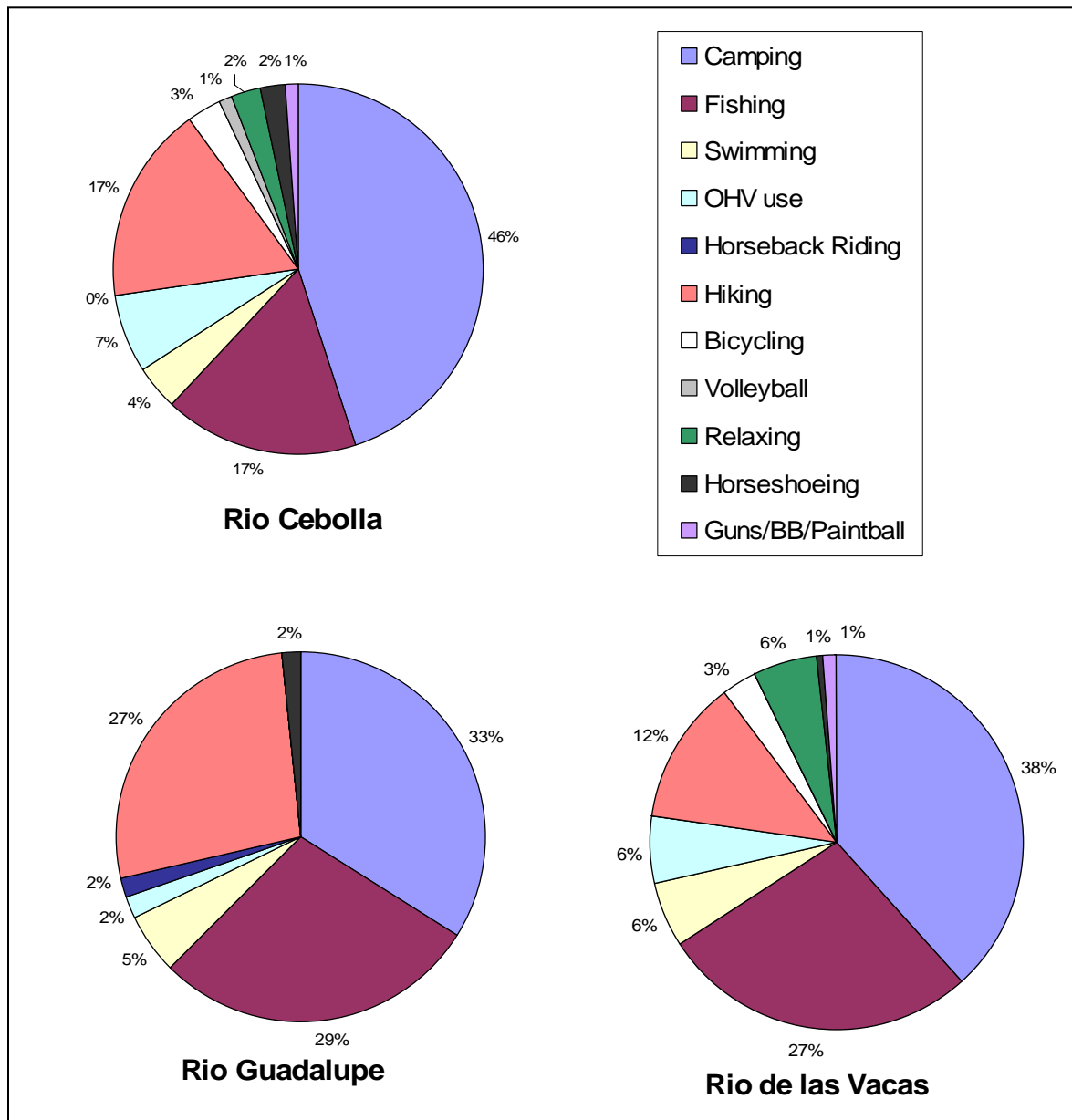


Figure 7. Percentage of each activity type occurring within each river system.

Off-road Vehicle Use

Off-highway vehicle (OHV) use is a popular activity within the Guadalupe Watershed. OHV activity causes high impacts to river systems and creates the greatest conflicts between campers. When Contact Rangers contacted a group, they noted the presence of ATVs (3- or 4-wheelers), dirt bikes (note: dirt bikes differ from motorcycles in that dirt bikes were made for off-road use), bicycles, or others (dune buggies, go-carts) (see Table 6).

For 2005, vehicles were separated out to distinguish between pick-ups, SUVs, and jeeps. Each of those vehicle types is capable of off-road travel; therefore, they could be used for OHV usage.

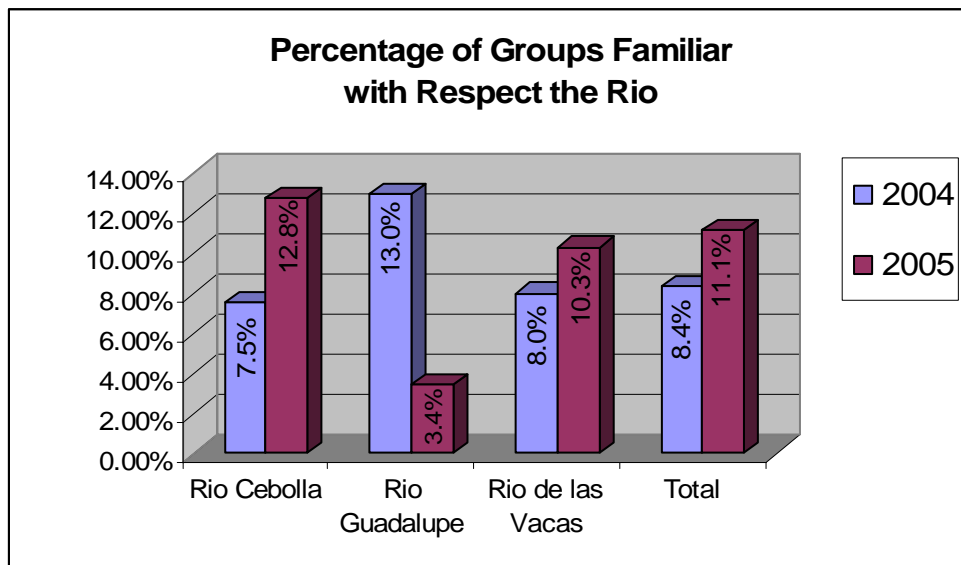
Of the non-vehicle types (dirt bikes, ATVs, and bicycles), bicycles were the most abundant (92), followed by ATVs (71), and then dirt bikes (28). The bicycle category included kids bikes, ten-speeds, and mountain bikes.

Table 6. Actual numbers of equipment capable of off-road use.

Stream Corridor	# of Dirt Bikes	# of ATVs	# of Bicycles	# of Pick-ups	# of SUVs	# of Jeeps	# of Others	TOTAL
Rio Cebolla	22	59	64	331	122	4	4	606
Rio Guadalupe	1	2	0	39	14	2	2	60
Rio de las Vacas	5	10	28	85	25	1	1	155
Total	28	71	92	455	161	7	7	821

Visitor Perception of Respect the Rio Program

Respect the Rio began in 2001; however, public education about the program did not come into full swing until a couple of years later. The Contact Ranger program started in 2003, and the promotion of the Respect the Rio program geared up in 2004. Respect the Rio signage within the Guadalupe Watershed began during 2004, and the number of signs increases each year. Signs were added to many of the dispersed campsites to educate Forest visitors about topics such as not driving through streams, outdoor bathroom etiquette, and wetland restoration projects.

**Figure 8.** Percentage of groups within a corridor that have heard of Respect the Rio.

The percentage of groups familiar with the Respect the Rio program increased from 8.4 % (32 groups) in 2004 to 11.1% (53 groups) in 2005 (see Figure 10). The same trend is true for Rio Cebolla and Rio de las Vacas. However, Rio Guadalupe experienced a decline in familiarity.

Familiar groups said they learned about Respect the Rio through prior discussions with Contact Rangers and by reading signs. With more promotion of the Respect the Rio program, the percentage of those groups familiar with the program should increase.

When Contact Rangers talked to each group, they explained the goals of the Respect the Rio program and explained what changes (i.e. vehicle closures, dispersed campsite modifications, and wetland restoration) were planned for the Guadalupe Watershed. Figure 11 shows the attitudes each group the Contact Rangers talked to had regarding the Respect the Rio program. Table 7 shows the actual number of individuals that comprised the groups in Figure 11. It was not always clear if the groups were opposed to the program or just opposed to the changes (vehicle closures and campsite modifications). What was clear was the majority (92.8 %) of support or indifference for the program and the general lack of non-support (1.7 %) or no comment (5.6%). In 2004, the majority of support or indifference for the program was 82.9% and the general lack of non-support was 5.3%.

Table 7. Actual numbers of individuals associated with group attitudes toward Respect the Rio.

Attitude	Rio Cebolla		Rio Guadalupe		Rio de las Vacas		Total	
	People	%	People	%	People	%	People	%
Not Supportive	22	1.2%	5	3.8%	12	3.0%	39	1.7%
No Comment	70	4.0%	43	32.3%	15	3.7%	128	5.6%
Indifferent	1076	60.8%	61	45.9%	234	58.1%	1371	59.5%
Supportive	602	34.0%	24	18.0%	142	35.2%	768	33.3%
Total	1770	- - -	133	- - -	403	- - -	2306	- - -

Pets

In 2005, the category of pets was added to the social survey. Table 8 shows the numbers and type of each pet recorded (and yes, someone had chickens). Of the 476 groups surveyed, 134 groups had at least one pet with them. Considering only the groups with pets, the number of dogs averaged 1.84 dogs per group. There were two groups that had eight dogs with them. Many of the pets were not on leashes when Contact Rangers approached. While there is no leash law on the Forest, pets do have to be under voice control of the owner.

Table 8. Number and types of each pets brought by groups.

Stream Corridor	# of Dogs	# of Cats	# of Horses	# of Chickens
Rio Cebolla	191	4	2	3
Rio Guadalupe	3	0	0	0
Rio de las Vacas	53	0	0	0
Total	247	4	2	3



Figure 9. Group attitude toward the Respect the Rio program within each river system. The number of groups for each attitude is noted within each bar. "No Comment" refers to groups who refused to talk or who were not at their campsite.

Remarks Made by Visitors

One asset of the Contact Ranger program is the feedback received from visitors. The visitors appreciate the opportunity to voice their opinion and to be heard. Comments are taken seriously, and in some cases, changes are being made for valid concerns. For example, after concerns about wheelchair access, the openings in the buck-and-pole fences will be modified to accommodate wheelchairs. While Contact Rangers don't take an audio recorder out with them, they do their best to accurately record opinions and comments made by visitors. Table 9 categorizes remarks made by visitors. There can be some overlap, for example, a person can be opposed to the closures and be concerned about places to camp. For a full listing of remarks, please see Appendix G.

Table 9. Remarks made by visitors simplified into categories.

# Groups	Remark Category (for complete list of remarks see Appendix G)
32	Favors the closures and fences
21	Complaints about trash in the area
10	Picked up trash left by others
9	Concerned there are no alternative sites for campers (RVs)
9	Asked for information (general and Forest Service policies)
7	Does not like closures, but understands why they are in place
5	Complaints against ATVs
5	Complaints about no places left to ride ATVs
4	Could not camp near river
3	Enjoys the beauty of the area
3	Voiced wheelchair/handicapped access concerns in regards to fences
2	Opposes closures
2	Complaints about other campers shooting guns
2	Wants bathrooms in area
2	Would not mind paying a fee for dumpsters
2	Reported fire restriction violations
2	Does not like carrying gear down (across fence)
2	Did not like having vehicles parked away from campsite
2	Worried about area being developed
2	Concerned the fences push campers into the drier parts of the forest
1	Worried about fecal coliform from cattle in streams
1	Need more Forest Service staff patrolling area
1	Had to put out another camper's campfire
1	Wants dumpsters (no fee involved)
1	Complaints about noisy neighbors
1	Wants more developed camping along FR 376
1	Still thinks there are a lot of places to camp despite fences
1	Voiced appreciation for Contact Rangers
1	Would like to see area the way it was 20 years ago
1	Concerned about animal pollution and wanted trash cans at Spence Hot Springs
1	Complaint about others driving through his campsite

Additional Considerations

While Respect the Rio is making progress, there are still some problem areas that keep popping up. Trash left behind by campers and recreationists seems to be the most pervasive (see Photos 6 and 7). Despite numerous visitors telling Contact Rangers that they clean up their trash as well as others' trash, there is still a lot of trash left scattered at dispersed campsites.

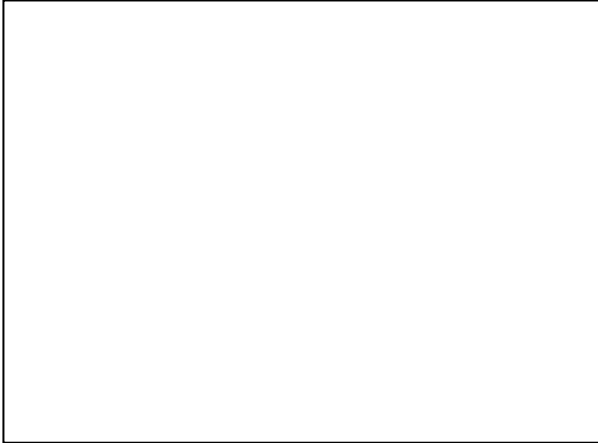


Photo 6. Trash and a tent abandoned at a campsite (31 July 05).

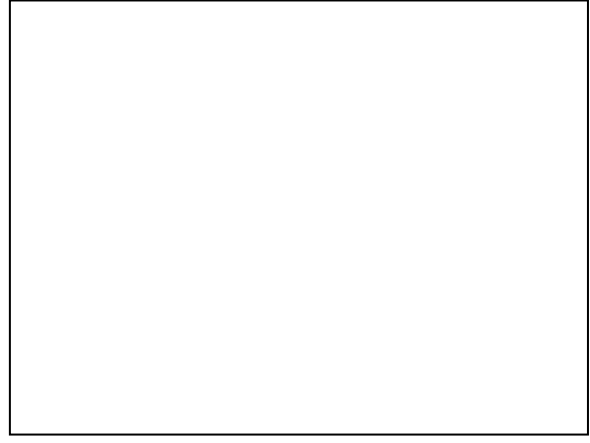


Photo 7. Trash that was bagged and left by campers. The bags were ransacked by animals (13 Aug 05).

Buck and pole fencing continues to be a maintenance issue. Natural destruction is caused by trees falling on the fence (Photo 8) and by beavers that enjoy the “aspen buffet” provided by the fence materials. Human destruction results when upset campers move or destroy sections of the fence so they can get their vehicles, RVs, campers, OHVs, etc. into the motor vehicle closure area. On several occasions, remnants of the fencing can be seen in campfire rings or wood piles (Photo 9). This is alarming considering the bucks are chemically pre-treated.

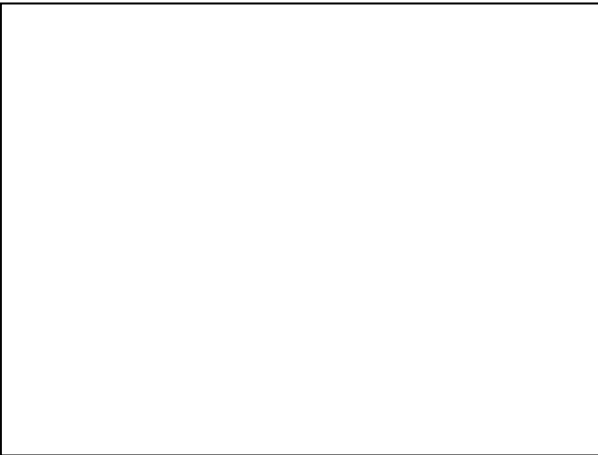


Photo 8. buck and pole fence section damaged by a fallen tree (14 Apr 05).

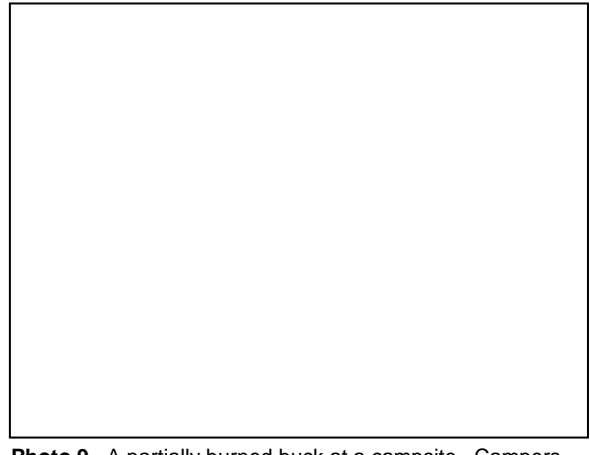


Photo 9. A partially burned buck at a campsite. Campers were not present so a Respect the Rio flier was left (18 June 05).

Problems also arise when forest visitors go around the fences with their vehicles. This adds further resource damage to the area. For instance, the buck and pole fence at the end of the Cebollita Springs East complex was extended twice because visitors kept driving around the end of the fence (Photo 11), which also included a “No Motor Vehicles” sign attached to a post. While our intentions were not to fence everything, it appears that the Cebollita Springs East complex needs substantial fencing to keep vehicles from destroying the wet meadow (Photo 10).



Photo 10. A pick-up that mistakenly decided to go off-road through a wet meadow. The pick-up was stuck and needed help to get out (19 June 05).

Chapter 3 – Education Accomplishments and Recommendations

Contact Ranger Program

Interpretive Programs

Interpretive programs were delivered during the summer of 2005 at the Redondo and Jemez Falls Campgrounds. Visitors raved, as did campground hosts, as many area users learned how they could help their rivers stay healthy. In 2006, we plan to extend the reach of the interpretive programs to Cuba Ranger District at the newly renovated Rio de las Vacas and Clear Creek campgrounds.

A total of 508 people attended the 19 interpretive programs (Photos 16 to 18). Attendance averaged about 26.7 visitors per talk with as few as 4 attending and as many as 45. Topics covered during the Respect the Rio's interpretive program included: beaver adaptations, Rio Grande cutthroat trout, butterflies, birds, dragonflies, constellations, animal tracks, and bats.

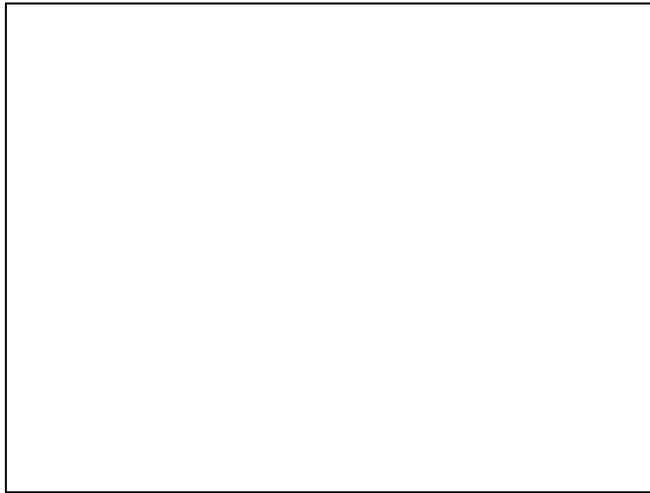


Photo 16. Kavita Krishna, Assistant Education Coordinator, along with "Carlos Cutthroat" present the life cycle game to campers at the Redondo Campground (29 May 05).



Photo 17. Greer McGettrick, SCA intern, gives a presentation on animal tracks and signs to campers at the Jemez Falls Campground (8 July 05).

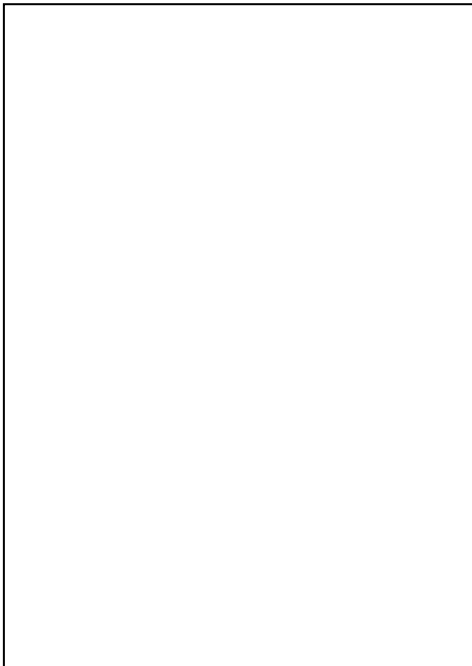


Photo 18. Jennifer Seaman giving a presentation on dragonflies (15 July 05).

Signage

Signs and placards were attached directly to buck and pole fencing constructed along Rio Cebolla. The laminated signs are inexpensive to produce and can be replaced easily if damaged (Photo 19). The signs can be rotated to allow different messages to be seen at specific locations. More signs will be installed in 2006 to cover dispersed campsites that were modified or had additional fencing built.

Three of the Respect the Rio signs were translated into Spanish (see Appendix H). David Wilson translated the “Streamside Slump” and Walk-in Camping is Permitted” signs. Teresa Fernandez translated the “Too Many Trails” sign.

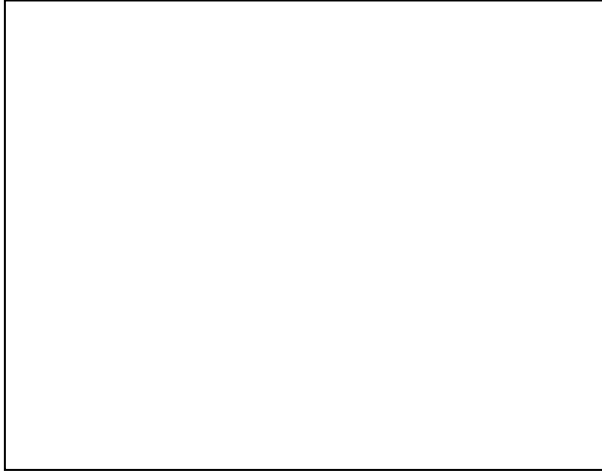


Photo 19. Kimberly Kelly, Education Coordinator, replacing a Respect the Rio sign at a dispersed campsite (14 Aug 05).



Photo 20. A Respect the Rio sign asking visitors to "Keep It Clean" with trash in the background (14 Aug 05).

Public Outreach

During 2005, the Respect the Rio message reached people through a variety of media:

- An article “R-E-S-P-E-C-T Find out what it means to streams” by Staci Matlock covering the upcoming modifications appeared in the *Santa Fe New Mexican*, which has a readership of 60,000.
- A Respect the Rio ad was shown in Century Rio 24 Theaters (Albuquerque, NM) from June 10 to August 2, 2005 (see Appendix I). The ad was shown during a repeating slide show while movie patrons waited for the movie to begin, reaching approximately 50,000.
- The Respect the Rio and Respect the River website (www.fs.fed.us/rtr).
- A native fish aquarium (180-gallon coldwater tank) and interpretive panels have been on display at the Walatowa Visitor Center since February 2004. The interactive native fish display was completed. Over 34,000 people visited the Walatowa Visitor Center during 2005.
- Various school programs were given to 146 students and 10 teachers. Topics included Forest Service careers, Rio Grande cutthroat trout life cycle, Cerro Grande fire, and fish biologist career.
- The Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout Life Cycle Game was presented at three children’s water festivals: Santa Fe, Socorro, and Middle Rio Grande (Albuquerque). In all, 506 students and 42 teachers and parents participated in the presentations.
- Community programs were given to 93 people, with topics on beaver adaptations and Rio Grande cutthroat trout life cycle.

- A power point presentation about the Respect the Rio program was given to Forest Service employees at the Southwest Region's Conservation Education Workshop and to environmental educators attending the North American Association of Environmental Educators national conference.
- Many New Mexican students and teachers used one of the six ornament templates created for the 2005 Capitol Holiday Tree.

Future outreach possibilities should include promotional items with Respect the Rio messages, such as window decals, litter bags, post cards, and brochures. Involvement with the Jemez Watershed Group should continue. Furthermore, a billboard ad along Highway 550 may help us reach visitors before they enter the Forest.

Public outreach is still the most effective method of reaching forest visitors. Efforts will continue as long as the need is present.

Chapter 4 – References

- New Mexico Environment Department, Surface Water Quality Bureau. 2002. Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Report for the Jemez River Watershed. Santa Fe, NM. 197+ pp.
http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/swqb/Jemez_Watershed_TMDLs/Coverpage+Preface.pdf
- USDA Forest Service, Santa Fe National Forest. 2003. Respect the Rio Annual Report 2003: Dispersed Recreation Component. Jemez Springs, NM. 52 pp.
http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/sfe/fish/reports/respect_the_rio%20reports/RTR_annual_report_2003.pdf
- USDA Forest Service, Santa Fe National Forest. 2004. Respect the Rio Annual Report 2004: Dispersed Recreation Component. Jemez Springs, NM. 78 pp.
http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/sfe/fish/reports/respect_the_rio%20reports/RtR_annual_report_2004.pdf

Appendix A – Ecological Repercussions of Guadalupe Watershed Impairments

Temperature Impairment

Rio de las Vacas and Rio Cebolla are both impaired due to water temperature. New Mexico Environment Department, Surface Water Quality Bureau (NMED-SWQB) states that “temperature shall not exceed 20°C (68°F)” (NMED 2002) for an extended period of time (3-7 days). Coldwater salmonids, such as native Rio Grande cutthroat trout, and other river life need cold, well-oxygenated water to survive. If a river exceeds 20°C (68°F) for 3 days or more, oxygen decreases dramatically, and fish are in danger of dying. Temperature impairment is often linked to decreased amounts of vegetation, such as overhanging willow, grasses, and other trees, that naturally cools stream waters. In addition, temperature increases are associated with stream widening caused by slumping banks and vehicle crossings.

Sedimentation/Siltation

Rio Cebolla is affected by sedimentation/siltation, defined as “water contaminants from other than natural causes that will settle and damage or impair the normal growth, function, or reproduction of aquatic life or significantly alter the physical or chemical properties of the bottom” (NMED 2002). Fine silty sediments, in particular, that build up along a naturally gravelly stream bottom severely reduce available habitat for macroinvertebrate insects and fish during various life stages. Such deposits limit available spawning areas for fish and block gill surfaces of macroinvertebrates such as mayflies and stoneflies, lowering amount of oxygen insects can absorb and limiting their ability to see prey. Fine silt also limits light penetration to the stream bottom, affecting natural plant growth, and can change healthy hydrological movement of stream deposits in general. Roads, trails, and browned-out stream banks are often sources of fine sediment. Monsoon season often finds southwestern streams running reddish-brown with silty road and campsite runoff.

Metals Impairment

Rio Guadalupe has exceeded state standards for metals (chronic aluminum). NMED-SWQB has described this impairment as “indicative of a landscape source” (NMED 2002), meaning this chronic aluminum is likely a naturally occurring impairment not caused by human impacts. Volcanic rocks of Rio Guadalupe canyon contain over 14% aluminum oxide naturally, nearly twice the normal occurrence of aluminum in non-volcanic geological formations. While human activities are not causing chronic aluminum in Rio Guadalupe, NMED-SWQB needs to continue monitoring this impairment, which is toxic to fish, bottom-dwelling insects, and some plants

Appendix B – Definitions

In order to easily describe what was learned by Respect the Rio staff this summer, some definitions of terms are necessary.

Dispersed Camping

Throughout National Forests all over the country, campers make their own primitive “dispersed” camping areas. “Dispersed” areas are not developed or heavily managed and do not have such facilities as toilets, picnic tables, water pumps, RV hookups, hosts, and pavement normally associated with a “campground.”

Dispersed Campsite

A dispersed “campsite” is a de-vegetated spot off an access road where a single family, or small group, will camp for the night. Usually, a dispersed “campsite” is marked by a fire ring, though heavily used sites may contain multiple fire rings. Dispersed campsites in close proximity may also be connected by a small, user-created road. Surveyors designated each campsite with its own inventory letter.

Dispersed Complex

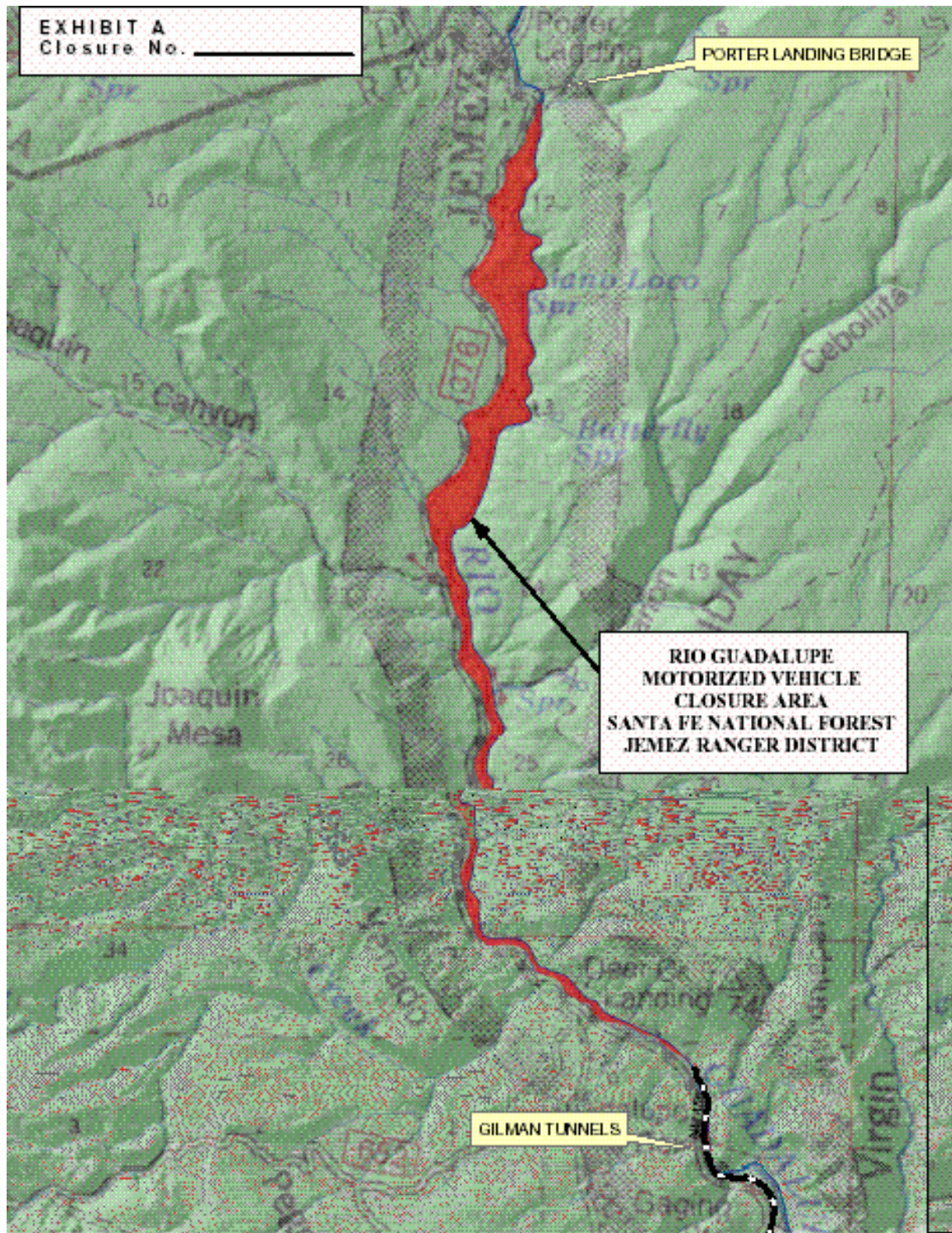
A dispersed camping “complex” is a series of campsites accessed by the same access road(s) and connected by a system of social roads and/or wide trails. The term “complex” is used in this report to define distinct areas of dispersed camping, which usually consist of multiple campsites. In rare cases, a “complex” may also refer to a single dispersed campsite with a distinct location. Surveyors designated each complex with its own inventory number and name.

Appendix C – Social Survey Form and Codes

Figure 10. Social survey form for 2005.

Figure 11. Code sheet used for social survey form in 2005.


Appendix D – Rio Guadalupe Closure Order



Appendix E – Rio Cebolla Closure Order

Rio Cebolla Motorized Vehicle Closure

Legend

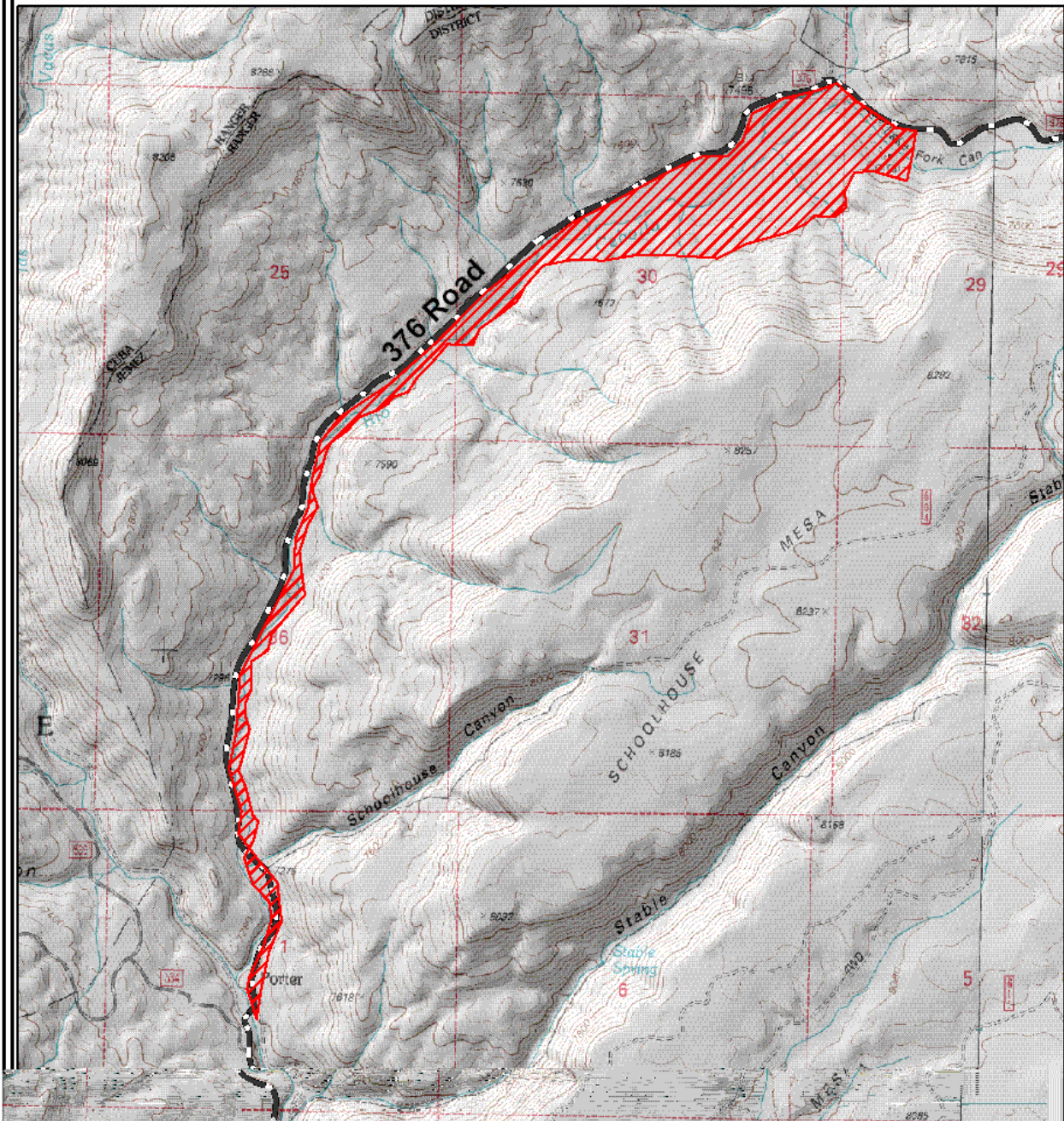
 Closed to All
Motorized Vehicles

0 0.25 0.5
Miles

Santa Fe National Forest

Exhibit A

Order #:



SNF SOGIS 4-18-05

Appendix F – Campsite Usage

Watershed	Complex Name	Complex #	Total # of People	Total # of Groups
Cebolla	Cebolla Confluence	1	10	2
Cebolla		1.5	23	4
Cebolla	Fence	2	94	7
Cebolla	Ponderosa Group	3	151	15
Cebolla		3.5	2	1
Cebolla	Ponderosa Group West	5	76	12
Cebolla		5.5	4	1
Cebolla	Mixed Conifer	6	58	10
Cebolla		6.5	8	1
Cebolla	Circle of Trees	7	13	8
Cebolla	Double Horseshoe	8	52	8
Cebolla	Ponderosa Cluster	9	34	6
Cebolla	Dumbell	10	31	13
Cebolla		10.5	9	3
Cebolla	The Stairs	11	32	7
Cebolla	Tiny Turnout	12	20	5
Cebolla	Eroded Vista	13	38	6
Cebolla		13.5	10	3
Cebolla	Party Place	14	186	27
Cebolla		14.5	6	3
Cebolla	Dirt Drop Off	15	41	14
Cebolla		15.5	19	9
Cebolla	Sloping L	16	44	7
Cebolla		16.5	4	2
Cebolla	Cebolla Arc	17	62	7
Cebolla		17.5	2	2
Cebolla	Birdcage Drive	18	20	3
Cebolla	Meadow Turf	19	2	2
Cebolla	All in One	20	197	22
Cebolla	Off River	21	96	12

Watershed	Complex Name	Complex #	Total # of People	Total # of Groups
Cebolla		21.5	16	3
Cebolla	ATV Hill	22	10	3
Cebolla		22.5	3	1
Cebolla	Private Landing	23	16	4
Cebolla	Cebollita Springs East	24	179	27
Cebolla		24.5	6	3
Cebolla	Rock Wall	25	48	9
Cebolla	Lakes Fire	26	6	3
Cebolla	Boulder End	27	47	12
Cebolla	Apsen Meadows	28	2	1
Cebolla	Aspen Meadows	28	36	13
Cebolla	Mixed Conifer North	29	45	15
Cebolla	604 Access	30	12	5
Guadalupe	Deer creek Landing	4	2	3
Guadalupe		4.5	1	2
Guadalupe	Powerline	6	0	2
Guadalupe	Corrals	7	5	3
Guadalupe		7.5	35	1
Guadalupe	Shady Grove	8	2	1
Guadalupe	Roundabout Peak	9	5	3
Guadalupe		9.5	0	2
Guadalupe	Long Haul	10	3	3
Guadalupe		10.5	0	1
Guadalupe	Juniper Junction	11	2	1
Guadalupe		11.5	0	3
Guadalupe	Berm Site	12	1	3
Guadalupe		12.5	0	2
Guadalupe	Rocky Road	13	0	1
Guadalupe		13.5	0	1
Guadalupe	Steep Ponderosa	14	4	2
Guadalupe		14.5	0	1
Guadalupe	Concrete Pad	15	0	4

Watershed	Complex Name	Complex #	Total # of People	Total # of Groups
Guadalupe		15.5	14	4
Guadalupe	Hell Hill	16	10	1
Guadalupe		16.5	5	1
Guadalupe	Chutes and Ladders	17	1	1
Guadalupe		17.5	2	1
Guadalupe	Odd Angle	19	9	2
Guadalupe		19.5	0	1
Guadalupe	Pull Through	20	30	4
Guadalupe	Porter	21	0	2
Guadalupe		21.5	2	2
Vacas	Vacas Tributary	1	5	2
Vacas	Vacas Tributary North	2	0	1
Vacas	Vacas View	3	13	3
Vacas	Upper Vacas Project	3.5	2	1
Vacas	Oak Arch	4	6	1
Vacas	Riverbank	5	0	2
Vacas		5.5	12	2
Vacas	Grassy Circle	7	34	5
Vacas		7.5	0	1
Vacas	Grassy Circle North	8	7	1
Vacas	Spruce Hill	9	4	1
Vacas	Hook	10	15	3
Vacas		10.5	2	1
Vacas	Alder	11	13	4
Vacas	Narrowleaf Cottonwood	12	15	4
Vacas	Slumping Bank	14	4	2
Vacas	Vacas East	15	0	2
Vacas	GS East Ojitos Gate	16	0	2
Vacas	GS North	17	4	2
Vacas	Stumps	18	9	3
Vacas	Stumps North	19	16	3
Vacas	Dogwood	20	2	1

Watershed	Complex Name	Complex #	Total # of People	Total # of Groups
Vacas	Vacas U	21	14	4
Vacas	Anvil	22	17	5
Vacas	Boulder Bench	24	21	4
Vacas	Beaver Dam	25	11	5
Vacas	Vacas West	26	45	7
Vacas	Road 20L	27	2	1
Vacas	Road 152A Split	28	24	6
Vacas	Open Camp	29	13	5
Vacas	Vacas North	30	52	3
Vacas	Fishing Pullout	31	6	1
Vacas	Vacas Flats	32	19	4
Vacas		32.5	5	2

Appendix G – Other Remarks by Visitors

Watershed	Complex Name	Complex #	# People	Other Remarks
Cebolla	Cebolla Confluence	01	4	"We love it here!" looking for site. Very happy that we lifted fire restrictions.
Cebolla		01.5	9	Not happy about having to place camper on opposite side of river. Voiced concerns about not having any flat place to put campers and trucks on other side of road. And added that this information should be accessible on website and made more public.
Cebolla		01.5	7	Asked about hot springs and Jemez Falls. (Nearby campers complained of shooting...evidence and remarks suggest they were shooting close to road.)
Cebolla	Fence	02	15	(Parked too close to river, were asked to move.)
Cebolla	Fence	02	10	(Was asked to move vehicle.)
Cebolla	Fence	02	4	30 years in area.
Cebolla	Fence	02	7	Complained about gun fire in the middle of the night. Afraid to walk with kids.
Cebolla	Ponderosa Group	03	7	(Parked too close, but moved when asked.)
Cebolla	Ponderosa Group	03	8	(Parked too close, but moved.)
Cebolla	Ponderosa Group	03	5	Visitor didn't like closure but understood it was for a good cause.
Cebolla	Ponderosa Group	03	20	(Was asked to move vehicles.)
Cebolla	Ponderosa Group	03	8	(Was asked to move vehicle.)
Cebolla	Ponderosa Group	03	11	Thinks fences are a "good idea." Once you get used to the initial shock (of the vehicle closure), it's fine. Also thinks ATV's tear up the place.
Cebolla	Ponderosa Group	03	5	First year in area. Had question about safety of water quality.
Cebolla	Ponderosa Group	03	4	Asked if fences were permanent. Was okay with answer. Feels "campsite overrun." Stray dog spotted - brown boxer.
Cebolla	Ponderosa Group	03	12	"Nice idea. Appreciate what you're doing."
Cebolla	Ponderosa Group	03	11	(Had bb guns, yet the complained about gun fire from site 1.5.)
Cebolla	Ponderosa Group West	05	4	Not aware of closure, might leave now that they have to move their camp trailer.
Cebolla	Ponderosa Group West	05	10	Seven years in area.
Cebolla	Ponderosa Group West	05	14	(Had a charcoal fire- didn't know about fire restrictions; it was their first time. Asked to move.)
Cebolla	Ponderosa Group West	05	2	Doesn't mind us fixing up streams, as long as they don't lose all their camping spots.
Cebolla		05.5	4	(Behind river.)
Cebolla	Mixed Conifer	06	6	Playing baseball. Asked about campfires.

Watershed	Complex Name	Complex #	# People	Other Remarks
Cebolla	Mixed Conifer	06	3	"We like the fences. It's better things are growing back."
Cebolla	Mixed Conifer	06	1	(Left flyer on truck windshield.)
Cebolla	Mixed Conifer	06	3	Asked about trash placement and naturally occurring algae- foam in river.
Cebolla	Mixed Conifer	06	9	Thinks fences are good. Hates it when others leave trash; he picks it up and takes it with him.
Cebolla	Mixed Conifer	06	15	"One person can ruin it for everyone" in respect to having to put up fences.
Cebolla	Circle of Trees	07	2	"Cool that you're doing this, It's a good idea" in reference to the fences and the closure.
Cebolla	Circle of Trees	07	1	(Pointing) wants cows out of area. Worried about fecal coliform in the water.
Cebolla	Circle of Trees	07	2	Found Boxer (dog). "We clean up everywhere we go."
Cebolla	Double Horseshoe	08	10	Thought the fences are "pretty good."
Cebolla	Double Horseshoe	08	2	Picked up trash. Already knew why fences were there.
Cebolla	Double Horseshoe	08	12	(Very willing to do what Linda asked them to do in regards to campfire.)
Cebolla	Ponderosa Cluster	09	4	(Hand axe in tree, asked to remove before cited for resource damage.)
Cebolla	Ponderosa Cluster	09	2	(Carried gun.) Lost boxer, found boxer later in day.
Cebolla	Ponderosa Cluster	09	4	(Alex and Kim talked to them last year. In fact, we used a photo of their son in our 2004 report.)
Cebolla	Dumbell	10	3	Didn't want to answer questions. Wants bathrooms.
Cebolla	Dumbell	10	3	"People [working] at Fenton were very rude and snotty."
Cebolla	Dumbell	10	0	(Had firewood during fire restrictions, left copy of restriction at site.)
Cebolla	Dumbell	10	2	"Great Job." Need more people with guns out here" in reference to forest staff.
Cebolla	Dumbell	10	5	"So much trash- it angers me." "I like the way it looks, nice crowd control" in reference to the fences.
Cebolla	Dumbell	10	6	In regards, to trash, "you need a rope & a gun, & I'm not buying a new rope." Thank you for doing your job.
Cebolla		10.5	4	Wants bathrooms and is frustrated that camp trailers and RVs can't get close to the water.
Cebolla	The Stairs	11	9	The visitor proudly admitted that it was her and her group that built the steps toward the closed off site of Cebollita Springs.
Cebolla	The Stairs	11	4	(Shooting bb guns and darts.)
Cebolla	The Stairs	11	0	(Campers in tent, didn't want to disturb.)
Cebolla	The Stairs	11	2	"I remember when it was a free for all for ATVs." (He did ask us where he could ride.)
Cebolla	Tiny Turnout	12	11	"It's a shame that a few ruin it for everyone else," in reference to trash and destroying sites.
Cebolla	Tiny Turnout	12	3	"Amazed at the difference, looks a lot better, a lot more growth!" and "I love what you've done!"

Watershed	Complex Name	Complex #	# People	Other Remarks
Cebolla	Tiny Turnout	12	3	"So pretty" in reference to the fences. "Chance to get away from the city and enjoy the cool weather."
Cebolla	Eroded Vista	13	0	(Chopping and burning bucks that were not yet set up.)
Cebolla	Eroded Vista	13	2	(Parked beyond berms. Came at night and didn't notice. Were leaving in a few hours.)
Cebolla	Eroded Vista	13	15	(Asked to move. Asked not to burn tiki torches during fire restrictions.)
Cebolla	Eroded Vista	13	5	Looking for a store. Women worried about bears, but were very 'bear aware.'
Cebolla	Party Place	14	10	Had three shovels stolen from truck during the night. Could not hear because vehicles had to be parked away from campsite due to closures.
Cebolla	Party Place	14	9	"Can't hear if people are breaking into your car or not" in response to what they thought of the new fences and how far away their cars are now parked.
Cebolla	Party Place	14	2	Couple voiced their opinion about wheelchairs and people with disabilities no longer being able to access the sites/river. The man, who was disabled, but not in need of a wheelchair, recommended a 40 inch opening and to cut off excess pole in the entrance.
Cebolla	Party Place	14	5	"Creating fences is cutting down trees that are important to our forest," says one visitor. However, he was not very receptive to hear our ecological explanation on why this was not as bad as he made it out to be.
Cebolla	Party Place	14	5	Commented on the amount of trash and wanted a toilet.
Cebolla	Party Place	14	2	Didn't want to be disturbed (didn't ask questions.)
Cebolla	Party Place	14	25	"It's not bad, you can live with it" in reference to the fences. Lots of trash.
Cebolla	Party Place	14	7	Fences are "really cool."
Cebolla	Party Place	14	10	(Saw 6 cows with yellow ear tags on Thursday.)
Cebolla	Party Place	14	5	Cleaned up trash
Cebolla	Party Place	14	0	(Sleeping didn't want to wake.)
Cebolla	Party Place	14	17	Really appreciated what we we're doing. Saw changes over the years.
Cebolla		14.5	2	Replied "very good" in response to explanation of RtR
Cebolla	Dirt Drop Off	15	3	May not come back because doesn't want to carry things down. Asked if Pecos had a motor vehicle closure
Cebolla	Dirt Drop Off	15	4	Will park closer to the road next time they come.
Cebolla	Dirt Drop Off	15	0	(ATV parked near river, left not asking to move, needs fence.)
Cebolla	Dirt Drop Off	15	2	Camping somewhere else, just fishing in this site.
Cebolla	Dirt Drop Off	15	4	(From Garden Grove, CA)
Cebolla	Dirt Drop Off	15	0	(Trees recently damaged with axe, found chopped wood. Because no fence, people are driving in and out of river side.)

Watershed	Complex Name	Complex #	# People	Other Remarks
Cebolla	Dirt Drop Off	15	5	(New site across the river.)
Cebolla	Dirt Drop Off	15	8	Playing T-ball
Cebolla	Dirt Drop Off	15	2	"It seems like there is still a lot of places to camp (RVs)."
Cebolla		15.5	0	(ATV hidden in bushes.)
Cebolla		15.5	5	Father is Dennis the campground host. Moved vehicle day before when law enforcement asked them to.
Cebolla		15.5	5	Berm is worn down, asked people to move their pick-up behind the berm.
Cebolla	Sloping L	16	3	"There's a reason I come here. If there is a way I can do my part to help protect the area just by following the rules I will." Left fire unattended briefly
Cebolla	Sloping L	16	11	Glad Contact Rangers came last year to tell why the fences would be here this year.
Cebolla	Sloping L	16	14	(Had a campfire during restrictions, we watched as they put it out.)
Cebolla		16.5	0	(Still in tent, didn't ask questions.)
Cebolla		16.5	4	(Asked to move car.) They asked about fire restrictions.
Cebolla	Cebolla Arc	17	20	(Had music playing loudly, asked to turn down.)
Cebolla	Cebolla Arc	17	2	(Getting ready to leave, only asked some questions.)
Cebolla	Cebolla Arc	17	4	(Good questions, seemed very interested.) Asked about work project for cub scouts and boy scouts
Cebolla	Birdcage Drive	18	10	"I'm a taxpayer, I should be able to go wherever I want!" Very resentful toward fences and our program, but seemed to be blowing off steam more than anything.
Cebolla	Birdcage Drive	18	0	(Tent was an army style mess hall tent, huge!)
Cebolla	All in One	20	11	"We leave it (site) cleaner than we found it."
Cebolla	All in One	20	4	Thinks the program is "great!"
Cebolla	All in One	20	7	"It's just a good program."
Cebolla	All in One	20	6	(Not willing to talk to us.)
Cebolla	All in One	20	2	(Parked behind boulders. We asked them to move. They said they were packing up and would move when they left.)
Cebolla	All in One	20	2	"It's nice with the fences, you can see the plants growing back."
Cebolla	All in One	20	21	(Did not want to interrupt their intense game of baseball, gave girl a flyer)
Cebolla	All in One	20	20	"If closure on river side, the forest service needs to deal with ATV roads up hill across from site on FS 376."
Cebolla	All in One	20	34	"We don't litter in the stream. We're running out of places to camp next to the river. The thought is good, but we feel like we're getting scooted out." "The 16 and under law on ATVs should be enforced, and we'd like a bin for trash as well."

Watershed	Complex Name	Complex #	# People	Other Remarks
Cebolla	All in One	20	13	Visitor expressed his disappointment in having to put out other visitor's campfires after they had left in recent years.
Cebolla	All in One	20	20	Had a son restricted to wheel chair. Mother thought the fences were "terrible for the handicapped." Gave us her information: (contact Kimberly for it).
Cebolla	All in One	20	2	Asked how far 100 ft was.
Cebolla	Off River	21	6	When we explained why we put up the fences, they said, "oh yeah, because of the dumb people."
Cebolla	Off River	21	4	He was a deputy for APD.
Cebolla		21.5	2	Wouldn't mind paying a fee if it helps keeps the forest clean.
Cebolla		21.5	6	"I'm glad you've done that (fence). I've seen a lot changes for the worst."
Cebolla	ATV Hill	22	2	(Inner-tube boat in back of pick up.)
Cebolla		22.5	3	Fishing.
Cebolla	Private Landing	23	3	"Area looks great since the fence." "Great idea!" in response to the program.
Cebolla	Private Landing	23	11	"As long as we can still use the area, we don't mind the fences."
Cebolla	Cebollita Springs East	24	20	Camped up next to fence but on the correct side.
Cebolla	Cebollita Springs East	24	4	(When we told them they should not have been camping behind the fence they were okay with it after they found out the reasoning behind it.)
Cebolla	Cebollita Springs East	24	8	Cleaned up after others.
Cebolla	Cebollita Springs East	24	1	Complained about the group next to him making too much noise late last night.
Cebolla	Cebollita Springs East	24	9	"I'd pay a fee for dumpsters...I HATE trash."
Cebolla	Cebollita Springs East	24	10	(Playing in trees and drinking.)
Cebolla	Cebollita Springs East	24	13	"Looks like it's getting better, getting restored" while looking toward the meadow.
Cebolla	Cebollita Springs East	24	3	(Other vehicle = horse trailer)
Cebolla		24.5	4	(Fogon Canyon Area. Driving behind fence.) Got lost when driving off of FS 604 and came out in the Fogon meadow. Said fences weren't here five years ago (closure only in effect for past 3 years).
Cebolla	Rock Wall	25	4	"Fences are biased toward tent campers, there should be better places for camp trailers to pull off where it's shady and there's enough room."

Watershed	Complex Name	Complex #	# People	Other Remarks
Cebolla	Rock Wall	25	4	Use to camp right on river with car, but they understand the significance of the closure and respect its restrictions. Wanted dumpsters on side of the road, and wanted more developed campsites on FR 376.
Cebolla	Lakes Fire	26	2	"Tired of picking up other people's sh**. (Resource damage done prior to these visitors: carving cut deep into trees)
Cebolla	Lakes Fire	26	2	Just leaving.
Cebolla	Boulder End	27	4	(Motorcycling on boulders, had special use permit, running national trials race in first weekend in August.)
Cebolla	Boulder End	27	1	Didn't feel like talking, but reported another group having fires during restrictions.
Cebolla	Boulder End	27	4	"We appreciate your work."
Cebolla	Apsen Meadows	28	2	Had scooters. Program is "great!"
Cebolla	Aspen Meadows	28	3	(Under fire restrictions. Had campers put out fire as asked.)
Cebolla	Aspen Meadows	28	5	(Dog hid in bumper.)
Cebolla	Aspen Meadows	28	0	(Some trash, broken down tents and missing poles, took pictures.)
Cebolla	Aspen Meadows	28	7	(They were taking down tents.)
Cebolla	Aspen Meadows	28	1	Suggested more parking on areas off road. "So beautiful and wonderful."
Cebolla	Aspen Meadows	28	3	"Do what ever it takes" in reference to keeping the land healthy. (Hose for grey water going into bushes.)
Cebolla	Mixed Conifer North	29	2	Liked the program very much.
Cebolla	Mixed Conifer North	29	2	Retired Forest Service employee.
Cebolla	Mixed Conifer North	29	15	(They were breaking down camp, could not tell how many tents they had.)
Cebolla	Mixed Conifer North	29	5	"People take in lots of things and don't pack it out."
Cebolla	Mixed Conifer North	29	0	Had fire out but still very hot (during restrictions) but not there. We called in Engine 301
Cebolla	Mixed Conifer North	29	2	Asked where to fish.
Cebolla	Mixed Conifer North	29	5	Asked about grey water and biodegradable, safe soaps.
Cebolla	604 Access	30	4	"Lots of people bring things in & don't take them out."

Watershed	Complex Name	Complex #	# People	Other Remarks
Cebolla	604 Access	30	3	(From Mexico, their English was a little poor.)
Cebolla	604 Access	30	5	(Had guns.)
Guadalupe	Deer Creek Landing	04	2	Concerns-animal pollution at Spence hot springs. Suggested trash cans at Spence.
Guadalupe		04.5	0	(Other = horse trailer. Horses gone.)
Guadalupe		04.5	1	(Fishing?)
Guadalupe	Powerline	06	0	(Left camp fire unattended.)
Guadalupe	Corrals	07	0	(ATV Tracks going down from road.)
Guadalupe		07.5	35	(ATV Trailer. Already packed up campsite.) Thinks we should "build more paths."
Guadalupe	Shady Grove	08	2	Gathering willow branches for spiritual sweat lodge (without permit).
Guadalupe	Roundabout Peak	09	2	(Did not ask questions because of rain.) Looking for geo cache.
Guadalupe	Roundabout Peak	09	0	(Most likely fishing, left flyer.)
Guadalupe	Long Haul	10	0	(Sign is gone.)
Guadalupe	Long Haul	10	0	(Buck-n-pole fence needs immediate repair.)
Guadalupe		11.5	0	(Other = horse trailer.)
Guadalupe		11.5	0	(May be fishing.)
Guadalupe	Berm Site	12	0	(May be fishing, left flyer.)
Guadalupe	Berm Site	12	1	"I understand that people complain (OHV) to the Forest Service, and Forest Service didn't police the area, so the sheriff stepped in and took it upon themselves. It's unfortunate, now there are new trails-not a good idea." "I hate to see 126 paved. It means that we'll have to ride from trail to trail. Maybe paying isn't such a bad idea, financial interest give people more responsibility."
Guadalupe		12.5	0	(Fishing?)
Guadalupe	Rocky Road	13	0	(Fishing? Left flyer.)
Guadalupe		13.5	0	(On other side of river. Did not want to interrupt their bird watching activities.)
Guadalupe	Steep Ponderosa	14	4	Complained about others leaving trash.
Guadalupe	Concrete Pad	15	0	(Fishing? Left flyer.)
Guadalupe		16.5	5	Disappointed they couldn't camp right by river.
Guadalupe	Chutes and Ladders	17	1	(Sleeping, didn't want to wake.)
Guadalupe	Pull Through	20	12	Interested in fishing and fish diseases.
Guadalupe	Pull Through	20	8	(Didn't ask questions because they were enjoying lunch, and we had seen them last weekend.)
Guadalupe	Pull Through	20	5	"We love it here!"
Guadalupe	Porter	21	0	Didn't understand closure last time. Got car stuck. But positive. Too busy for questions.
Vacas	Vacas Tributary North	02	0	Dog in truck with windows up.
Vacas	Oak Arch	04	6	Disappointed that they have to haul things in to fenced off areas, but understand why.

Watershed	Complex Name	Complex #	# People	Other Remarks
Vacas		05.5	4	Camper believes that fence pushes him and other campers into drier areas, more susceptible to fires.
Vacas		05.5	8	Should have created campsite across road first. Adamant about being a few hundred feet from river (did not respond to statement that fences are 300 feet from river). Was smoking (during fire restrictions - put out. Had satellite TV!
Vacas	Grassy Circle	07	3	Thinks we are "doing a good job." Says there are weirdos out here. Wants to know if NM gun law applies out here (having loaded guns in vehicle- i.e. motorhome-because this is his "home.")
Vacas	Grassy Circle	07	15	(Playing musical instruments.) Told us they pick up lots of trash.
Vacas	Spruce Hill	09	4	(Jeep had breached fence. Talked with people about respecting fence for resource protection and potential citation for damage and they said they wouldn't do it again.)
Vacas	Hook	10	15	Had to drive down to other site to read sign because sign at Hook was gone, this caused confusion.
Vacas		10.5	2	(Here last weekend.) Witnessed vandalism, threatened by vandals, picked up shells to give to Dusty. Was not interested in answering questions.
Vacas	Alder	11	2	Thought that the fences were "pushing people up toward fire danger."
Vacas	Alder	11	5	(Had fire wood, but asked about fire restrictions.)
Vacas	Narrowleaf Cottonwood	12	2	(Camper in his tent, didn't want to disturb, so we didn't ask questions.)
Vacas	Narrowleaf Cottonwood	12	2	Liked the program
Vacas	Narrowleaf Cottonwood	12	2	They are camping far from the river elsewhere. Concerned about areas without fences. They "respect the rio" which is why they are camping away from the river.
Vacas	GS East Ojitos Gate	16	0	Cows above site, below GS camp.
Vacas	Stumps	18	1	"You see piles of trash where you want to camp" in reference to semi clean sites.
Vacas	Stumps	18	4	ATV damage complaints.
Vacas	Stumps	18	4	(Gun seen in front seat.) Comes here a lot, so he tries to keep it the way it should be. Says he always packs out trash.
Vacas	Stumps North	19	4	Not willing to talk or answer questions.
Vacas	Vacas U	21	2	(We talked to other guys last on 6/11.) (Maryland.)
Vacas	Vacas U	21	0	(Getting ready to leave and feels sick. We did not ask questions.)
Vacas	Vacas U	21	2	"People are so piggy." "We hate to see this side look like the other side [of the GS camp]." They said they often bring home bags of trash.
Vacas	Anvil	22	3	Worried that area will be developed, become a fee area.
Vacas	Anvil	22	1	"I don't want it to be another Fenton Lake."

Watershed	Complex Name	Complex #	# People	Other Remarks
Vacas	Boulder Bench	24	4	Got wrong fire information from Santa Fe. Saw 4-wheeler tracks through river. Complained about trash in most areas (general observation). Concerned sites would be developed like Fenton.
Vacas	Beaver Dam	25	4	Want the area to be in good shape.
Vacas	Beaver Dam	25	2	"There was lots of trash when I got here, including dirty diapers."
Vacas	Beaver Dam	25	2	Playing corn hole.
Vacas	Vacas West	26	0	Lots of piled up wood. Don't know if it was theirs (currently under fire restrictions).
Vacas	Vacas West	26	7	Asked about where fence would go if built (positive). Acknowledges that some things need to happen. More & more people will come to area. Trash complaint.
Vacas	Road 152A Split	28	2	"Main thing is to get away from everyone". "Would like to see this area back to the way it was 20 years ago when we first came here to camp."
Vacas	Road 152A Split	28	10	Saw neighbors with fires last night; they are gone now.
Vacas	Road 152A Split	28	8	Asked about permits to harvest rocks and trees.
Vacas	Road 152A Split	28	1	"There's no place to ride up here anymore" in reference to the new law passed against OHV use.
Vacas	Open Camp	29	2	"I look for shade when I'm in camper all day - it gets hot." "I like to be near the water to hear it trickle."
Vacas	Open Camp	29	4	(Birthday party, more coming later in the day.)
Vacas	Open Camp	29	2	Trash left in area - complaint "It's disgusting."
Vacas	Open Camp	29	3	(Man was in wheelchair.)
Vacas	Vacas North	30	22	One camper received a ticket for driving ATV on FR20 (not registered).
Vacas	Vacas Flats	32	2	Tired of people driving through campsites to clean fish, so he blocked the access with his truck.
Vacas		32.5	3	(Across river, didn't talk to them.)
Vacas	Fenceline	34	3	"Glad you are doing something with the rivers." "It's beautiful here."
Vacas	Fenceline	34	4	Cleaned up trash from streams.

Appendix H – New Educational Materials

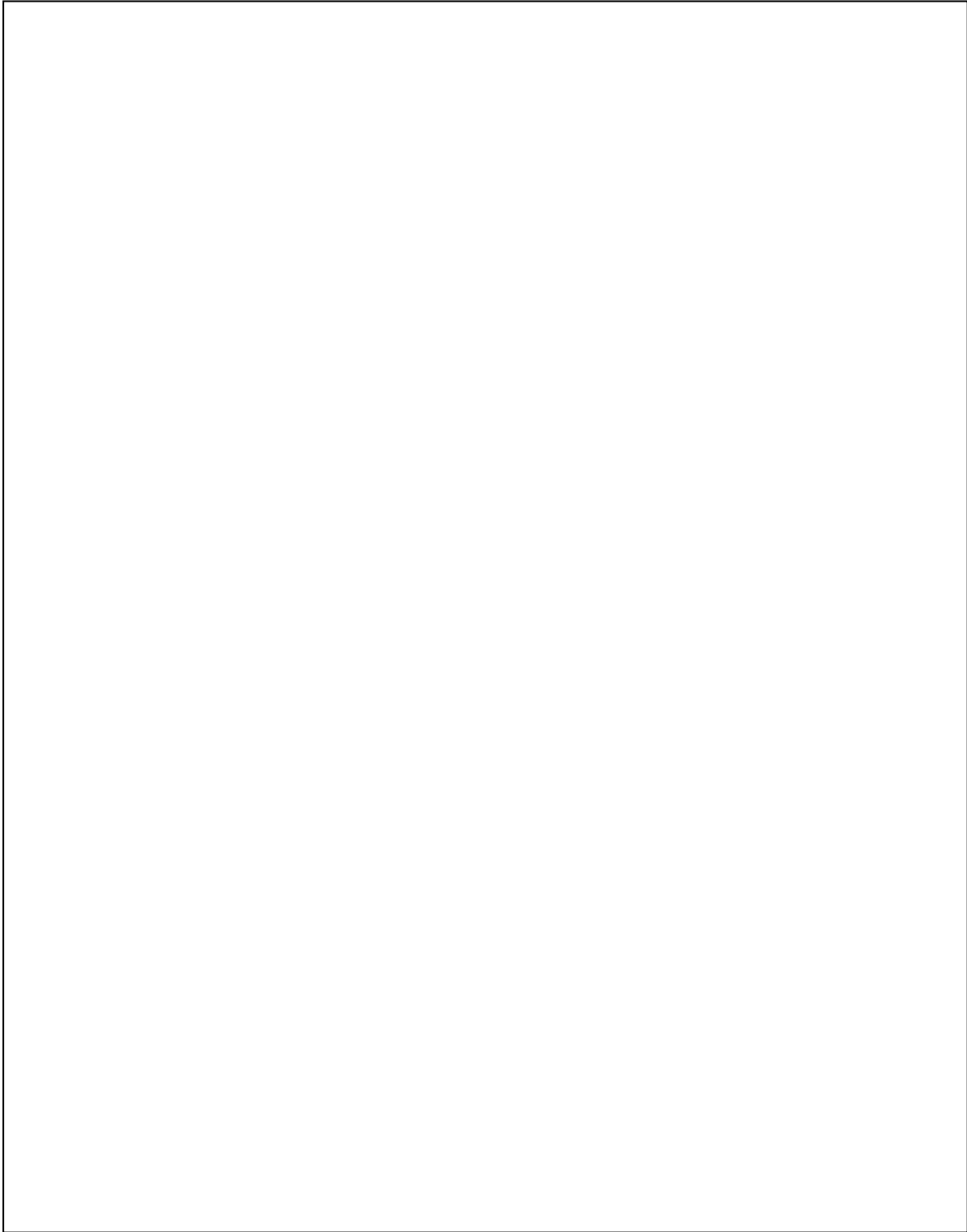
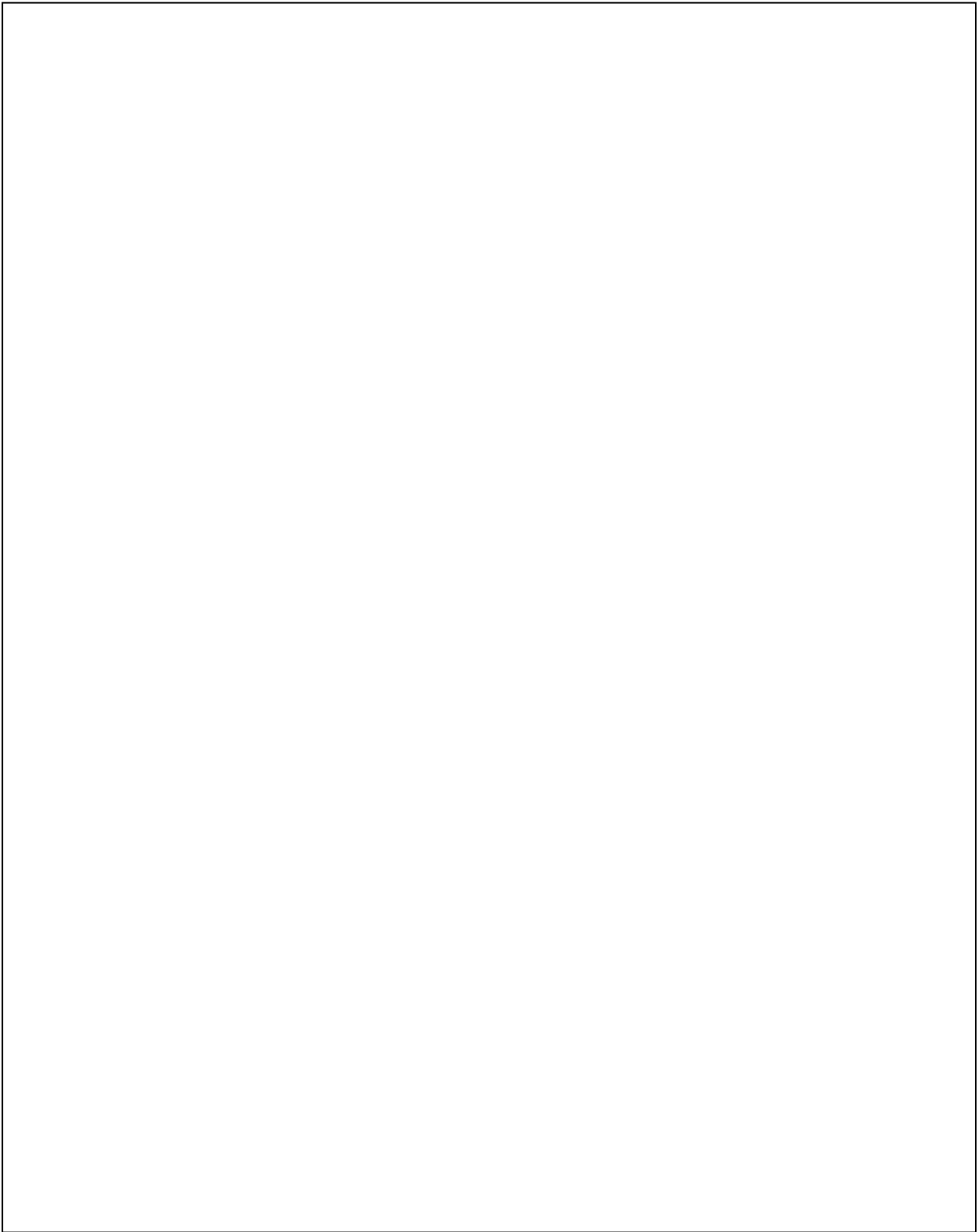


Figure 12. Spanish translation of "Streamside Slump."




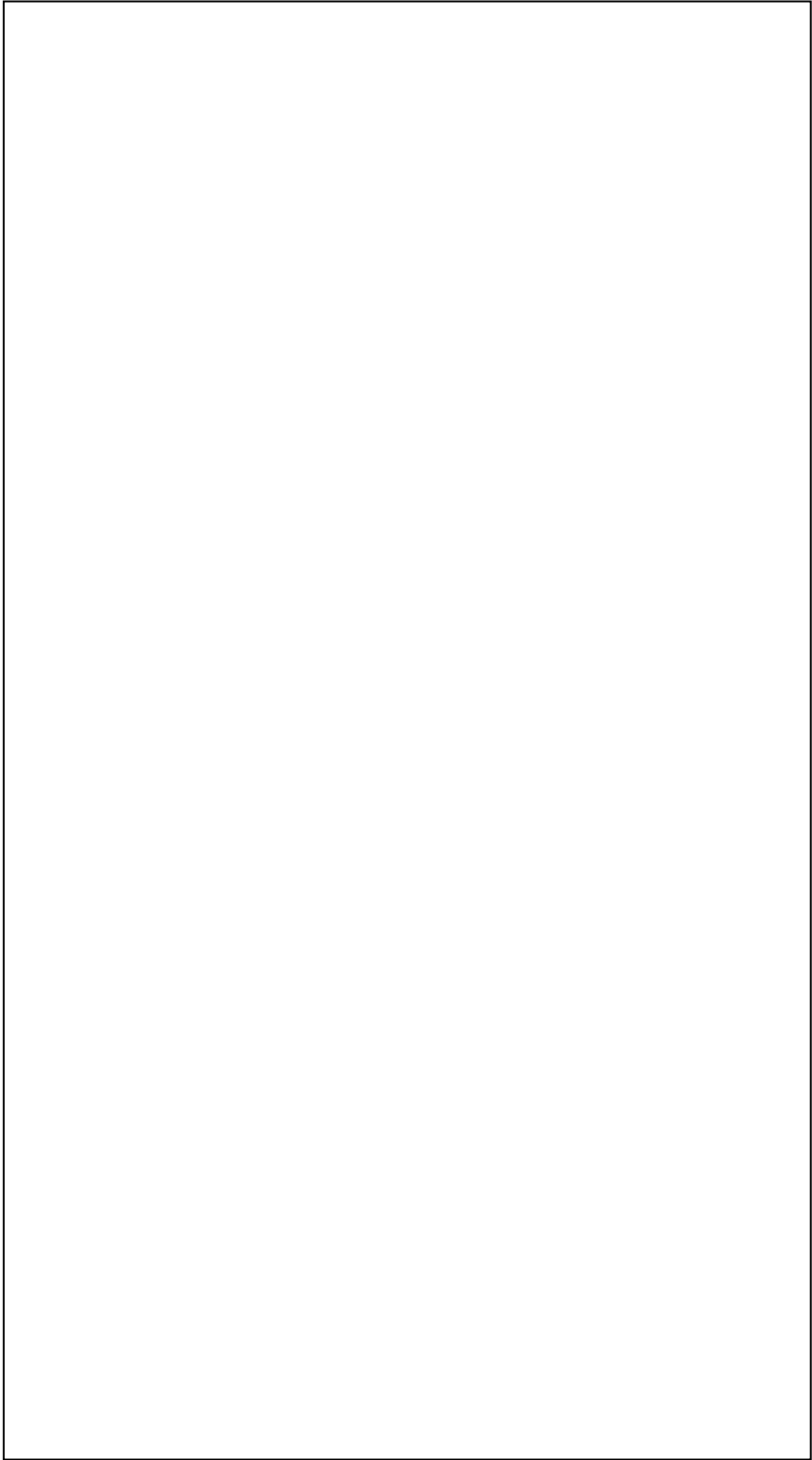


Figure 14. Spanish translation of "Streamside Slump."

Figure 15. Spanish translation of "Too Many Trails."

Appendix I – Movie Ad



Acknowledgements

We heartily thank the USDA Forest Service for supporting the Respect the Rio program through a Centennial of Service Challenge Grant.

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